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Letter from the Editor

Importance of Focusing

Dear Reader,

If you are familiar with photography, you will know the value of focusing in obtaining a sharp, clear view of things.

What we are trying to do is something comparable. We have to adjust our focusing mechanism every month on the panoramic march of events to obtain a definite image, a distinct vision of what is your need.

It is that which enables us to compress into the available space all that you may need to know of current affairs for the purposes of competitive examinations and interviews.

*We are sure you are making good use of the rich material you find in the pages of the *Competition Master* under various features every month.*

We wish you all success.

Yours sincerely,

Editor

Another Switch in Balance of Power

THE New Year, on which millions of people had placed fond hopes of peace, harmony and goodwill among mankind, has started on a disastrous note with a confrontation between the super Powers coming perilously close to the South-Asian sub-continent and also to a part of the Middle East. In South-East Asia the Soviet Union has won the proxy war it was fighting subtly but unmistakably through their Vietnamese proteges against the Cambodians (or the Kampucheans, as the new name goes) who were backed by the Chinese and in whose survival as a political entity the U.S.A. also had considerable interest. The active rebels in Cambodia joined hands with the forces from Soviet-controlled Vietnam to overthrow with a dramatic suddenness the regime of Mr Pol Pot, Prime Minister of Cambodia, who has since fled to China. The fall of the capital, Pnom Penh, marked a severe setback to Chinese diplomacy, and a shift in the balance of power in that region.

The Soviet Union has signed a series of long-term friendship treaties with Vietnam, Ethiopia and Afghanistan. These small countries are in theory non-aligned and are also adherents of what is called the "progressive group" within the movement following Cuba's militant lead. Consequently, countries like India, Yugoslavia and Egypt fear that such close identification of these countries with the Communist military bloc poses a danger to the non-aligned movement's basic principles. These treaties with Moscow thus strike at the root of the basic principle that non-aligned nations should keep aloof from active association and links with the Big Powers. But is not non-alignment already fading out as a dogma and a commitment and is not another pattern of long-term friendships emerging to herald a new order of things?

Wars are not being fought by the Big Powers directly but through others; the basic aim nevertheless is the same—to enlarge their spheres of influence, to control as many territories as possible and to outmanoeuvre the other Powers in every continent. In fact, every move on the diplomatic chessboard by any of the Powers is a mere link in a long chain and a part of a well calculated strategy. Coups and counter-coups are among such tactics, the

people and the army Generals merely acting as tools of power politics.

In December, 1978, the U.S.A. and China decided, after a long interval, to resume their diplomatic relations; this decision was a rebuff to the Soviet Union, though, for appearances' sake, it said it welcomed all moves for normalcy. Recent developments have signalled the resumption of the cold war between the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union; the Washington-Peking link can affect the prospects of world peace and checkmate Soviet strategy. The Soviet Union fears that China will now be able to pursue further its aims to ensure hegemony. China has already signed a friendship treaty with Japan despite Moscow's fulminations. Hanoi's victory in Cambodia is a concrete Soviet answer to U.S. and Chinese diplomatic moves.

Judging from the latest indications, the Shah of Iran is on his way out and once he leaves Teheran, even if for a short time for a holiday or for rest, he is unlikely to return, so strong is the agitation against him in riot-torn, ravaged Iran. At first the U.S. administration, especially President Carter, strongly supported the Shah and made no bones about their stand. But on finding that the Shah was fast losing ground and that his exit was certain the U.S.A. has announced a policy switch; it has advised the Shah to quit his country. The collapse of the established authority in Iran and the sudden changes in Kabul have also indicated that inequality in the Islamic belt is bound to undermine the pro-Western regimes founded on feudalism.

Iran has, for the first time, witnessed a strange spectacle: conflicting elements—leftists and orthodox Mullahs joining hands to demand the ouster of the Shah who only last year boasted that he would rule for half a century more. And yet Russia has warned that if the U.S.A. intervened in Iran, it (*Russia*) would step in. This means that the fall of the Shah will also be half a victory for Moscow even if for the moment a pro-Communist regime does not emerge in Teheran. There need be no doubt, however, that sooner or later Iran will have a leftist Government (the Soviet Union is Iran's northern neighbour). That would be another triumph for the Russian bear who is prowling in more regions than the West thought possible even two years ago.

(East Germany), to India in the second week of January, and the talks he had with Indian leaders facilitated a cordial understanding between the two countries. A basic identity of approach has been established towards contemporary international relations and economic accords have been signed.

The two countries signed a long-term agreement for co-operation in different spheres which, among other things, envisages the doubling of the trade turn-over from the present level of Rs. 100 crore to Rs. 200 crore in the next five years and also provides for joint ventures in third countries.

The agreement signed by Industries Minister George Fernandes and G.D.R. Politbureau member, Mr G. Mittage, is valid till 1985 and specifies the modalities for implementing the various provisions of the agreement relating to co-operation in science and technology, industrial collaboration and transfer of technology. The agreement has laid down that the Indo-G.D.R. Ministerial level Joint Commission will supervise the implementation of specific projects.

India and G.D.R. also signed a shipping agreement which aims at strengthening the existing liner service between the two countries. It incorporates the parity principle in the lifting of cargoes by the respective liner services of the two countries and embodies built-in preference clauses for the lifting of cargoes of the two countries.

At the conclusion of their talks, Prime Minister Morarji Desai and GDR President Erich Honecker signed a joint statement which outlined their identity of views on several issues.

Consensus on N. Tests

Even while the politicians, including the Prime Minister

and the people in general, are debating the desirability or otherwise of more nuclear explosions, with most people opposed to them, an overwhelming majority of scientists favour continuation of underground nuclear explosions by India for peaceful purposes. This was evident from a sample survey conducted among scientists participating in the Indian Science Congress held in Hyderabad on January 5, 6 and 7.

A cross-section of scientists from various disciplines, coming under various age groups, numbering 30, were interviewed by a team of an agency reporters on the basis of a questionnaire on important national issues concerning science and technology. The scientists were asked whether India should continue its peaceful nuclear explosions.

About 77 per cent of the scientists were of the opinion that there were for peaceful nuclear explosions. The others said such tests did not serve any purpose in national development. The opponents of nuclear explosions also felt that these experiments could lead to radio-active hazards. Those who favoured nuclear explosions justified them on the ground that they could immensely benefit nuclear research and expedite developmental projects in various fields like engineering, mining, digging of canals and underground storage of gas.

To the second question whether subjection of India's nuclear installations to full-scope safeguards, as insisted upon by the U.S.A., would hinder development of atomic energy in India, 60 per cent of the interviewed scientists said full-scope safeguards would hinder the country's atomic research and development.

Forty per cent of them, who felt that fullscope safeguards

were not harmful, based their arguments on diversion of atomic energy for weapons manufacture because without safeguards countries could not be prevented from going in for nuclear weapons. However, some who favoured such safeguards felt they should be on a bilateral basis.

Those who opposed full-scope safeguards felt they would encroach upon the sovereignty of the nation and hinder development plans. Over 63 per cent of the scientists were opposed to the appointment of an Indo-American joint committee of scientists to examine the impact of atomic safeguards on the development of atomic energy, particularly in developing countries. While 27 of them approved the appointment of the committee, 10 per cent were non-committal. Many felt the committee of scientists, if at all appointed, should be an international one and not bilateral.

Indian Scientists' Achievement

Indian scientists' achievements in the nuclear field were outlined at the Hyderabad Session of the Indian Science Congress on January 4, in the context of the U.S. disinclination to supply nuclear fuel to India. In case the United States stops fuel supply for the Tarapur nuclear plant, Indian nuclear engineers can deliver alternate fuel within two years, Dr Sethna, the top official of the Department of Atomic Energy, claimed.

The technology for making alternate fuel (a mixture of plutonium oxide and uranium oxide) is stated to be ready. While uranium is indigenously available, plutonium would have to be obtained by processing the spent fuel of the Tarapur plant now stored under water.

The only stumbling block in the manufacture of alternate fuel is the right of the U.S.A.

under the 1963 Agreement to take the spent fuel back to America. If the United States insists on taking the spent fuel back, there will be no source of plutonium for the alternate fuel, the official said. About 150 tonnes of spent fuel are reportedly kept at the Tarapur storage tank awaiting the decision of the Government.

According to Dr Sethna, the plant for making fuel rods for Tarapur at the nuclear fuel complex is presently "underutilised" due to the non-arrival of the 16.9 tonnes of enriched uranium from the United States. But there is a sufficient amount of enriched uranium in stock to keep the fuel fabricating plant running through the end of 1979. There are also spare fuel rods at the Tarapur plant itself and there is no fear of the Tarapur plant closing down.

Asked about the delay in reprocessing the spent fuel, the official said it was a political decision and it was linked up with the safeguards issue.

According to another report, Indian scientists in general are of good quality, but a large number of them are dissatisfied about "promotions, salary, working conditions, and availability of equipment for research". The findings of the first national survey on the "Psychological dimensions of Indian scientists" were reported at the Indian Science Congress by Prof Sri Chandra, President of the section of "Psychology and educational sciences".

The frustrating conditions have not led to "a mood of despair" but they appear to have somewhat limited their efficient functioning. The scientists feel, in general, that the defects can be remedied by a few necessary reforms that allow a greater measure of autonomy. The survey has revealed that minimization of bureaucratic control, bossism, and interference

by the authorities will create a proper climate for research.

The findings, based on questionnaires and interviews revealed that intellectually Indian scientists are well-endowed and emotionally mature. But they crave for recognition and appreciation of their work.

India's Defence & Arms Policy

Another exposition of India's defence policy and of the supply of arms for its military forces was given by Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram in Delhi on January 11 while reacting to the latest developments in the international situation. India, he said, stood committed to a policy of cordial relations with all countries, particularly its neighbours. Attention was focussed on the fact that in the pursuit of the policy of modernising the armed forces and replacing outdated and obsolete equipment the country was not adding to the total military strength (as several other countries were doing) but was confining itself to the level necessary for defence purposes.

This was clear from the fact that India's defence expenditure is less than 4 per cent of the country's gross national product; the revised percentage may cross this figure slightly but that would be because of the mounting cost of the equipment and not as a result of any expansion. India was maintaining its forces as well as the equipment and not adding to it, but replacements, by themselves, were costlier these days. Even keeping up the earlier level of maintenance to ensure adequate preparedness was proving costlier than before. Moreover, India was not going out of its way to acquire modern and sophisticated equipment as certain other countries were persistently doing.

The Defence Minister also made a significant announce-

ment about the promotion prospects of army officers. Owing to the "congestion" caused by the large-scale recruitment since the Chinese attack of 1962, the promotion prospects in certain categories had dimmed and the resultant discontentment among officers was not being remedied.

It has also been affirmed that the contribution by the research and development wing of the defence forces to the achievement in respect of self-reliance in weapons and weapon-system has been considerable. Substantial contributions have, for instance, been made by the Research and Development wing to the armour, engine and electronics system of the country's main battle tank.

U.S. Aircraft for Pakistan

The U.S. Government is understood to have decided to grant Pakistan's request for more fighter planes in view of the new developments in the international sphere, such as the fall of the Shah in Iran, the growing Russian influence in Afghanistan and in the Far East, where the Soviet-backed Vietnamese forces have captured Cambodia.

Thus the latest events have resulted in a net benefit to Pakistan the economic and military aid to which had been stopped by the U.S.A. for about a year following objections to Pakistan's plans to purchase nuclear reprocessing equipment from France. The agreement with France was cancelled some months ago and since then Pakistan's case for resumption of aid was under consideration.

According to observers, the aircraft which Pakistan will ask for is the F-5, the sale of which, it is stated, would be within the limits prescribed by U.S. policy for supply of arms to South Asia. F-5 is described as basically a defensive and not an

offensive plane. More sophisticated weapons may also flow from the U.S. to Pakistan in view of the new strategic importance which Pakistan has gained in the eyes of the USA.

The Government of India is watching the situation and has expressed the hope that the USA will not do anything which would disturb the military balance in the sub-continent. The Indian Defence Minister, Mr Jagjivan Ram, said on January 11 that he hoped the USA would continue the earlier trend in its policy so that peace is not disturbed in this region. But, he said, India had to keep herself ready for all contingencies.

Sixth Plan Modifications

While the essential features and the total outlay of about Rs. 1,17,000 crores on the Sixth Plan will remain unchanged, some modifications are being made in respect of the share of the centrally-sponsored schemes in the total outlay. Schemes involving an outlay of Rs. 3,000 crores have been transferred from the Central sphere to that of the States. The outlay on State schemes will thus go up to Rs. 38,000 crores—57 per cent of the Sixth Plan outlay—against 46.5 per cent in the Fifth Plan.

This change was made following the discussions of the National Development Council Working Group in Delhi on January 10. There was severe criticism by the Chief Ministers against the Commission's new formula evolved for Central assistance to the States as an alternative to the Gadgil Formula which has been in operation since the Fourth Plan.

The Punjab Chief Minister strongly advocated the case of the progressive and well-off States which had a creditable performance to their credit but which were being virtually "punished" for being highly progressive, leaving the other

States way behind. The poverty-population criterion for financial allocations had worked to the disadvantage of the progressive States but had benefited other States which had not registered commendable progress, which had been wasteful and had not implemented the Planning schemes in the right spirit and with the requisite earnestness and efficiency.

It has then decided to review the situation, and the general expectation was that the Gadgil Formula for Central assistance to the States would continue with some modifications, if necessary, so that a square deal might be assured to both categories of States.

The National Development Council is, therefore, expected to approve the Sixth Plan finally; about a year of the Plan period has already passed and any radical changes at this stage would not be practicable. One major change may, however, be made, and that would be regarding decentralisation. There has been a persistent demand for decentralising the planning processes, both in the preparation and implementation, and some measures to ensure such a process of decreasing Central control are likely to be accepted.

Spurt in Indian Economy

In spite of reports to the effect that the Indian economy has received several setbacks in recent months as a result of strikes in certain industries, shortages of certain raw materials and other hindrances in industrial production, it has now been found that the output in certain key sectors has been wholly satisfactory, particularly in heavy industries like steel, coal, cement and fertilizers, commercial vehicles, industrial machinery and, what is equally important, production of electricity—in many ways the most vital field of all. The commen-

dable economic performance has materialised despite floods and the consequent setbacks and interruptions to production processes, such as shorter coal output. The process of recovery has been quite creditable during the period subsequent to the flood devastation.

The output of coal is likely to be 113.5 million tonnes in 1978-79, against about 100 million tonnes in 1977-78. But the really notable achievement has been in the sphere of power production. During the first eight months of the current financial year, the power output is estimated at 50,079 million units, against 44,213 million units in the same period in 1977-78. The expectations are that during the remaining period of 1978-79 also the power output will be creditable. New plants with a generating capacity of 3,857 megawatts were to be commissioned during the current year. Until the end of December 1978, more than half of this additional capacity has been added and the other half is expected to be added before March 31, 1979. This will mark an increase of 14 per cent over the previous year.

Phosphatic fertiliser output went up by 16.8 per cent; the production of saleable steel from integrated steel plants has been high—4.66 million tonnes against 4.54 million tonnes. Measures have also been taken to ensure better facility regarding the supply of components and spare parts, thus ensuring greater production in many industries.

Plight of the Rupee

Since the decline of the rupee started in 1947 or thereabouts, it has never looked up, though at times there has been a semblance of stability whenever inflationary trends were checked. Step by step the value of the rupee has fallen, resulting in

considerable hardship to the average person and marking a highly disconcerting erosion in the net worth of the people's assets and savings.

According to a study of wholesale prices conducted by the Economic and Scientific Research Foundation which has examined the statistics for the past three decades, the net value of the rupee, as measured by the wholesale price index, fell to 20 paise in 1977, as compared to 1947.

The study has also revealed that the prices of commodities generally have risen 5.2 times during the past three decades. Food articles rose by 5.1 times, minerals by as much as 19.2 times and manufactured goods 4.8 times. The periods of comparative price stability were facilitated by bumper food-grain crops, as during the past three agricultural seasons. The sharp increase in money supply in the market, that is, the activity of the note printing at the Security Press at Nasik, has also something to do with the erosion in the value of the rupee.

Big Foreign Trade Deficit

Although India has a gaping deficit of Rs. 729 crores in its foreign trade, the difference is explained by the Government's policy of permitting more imports so as to allow spare part replacements. The Rs. 729-crore deficit is for the first eight months of the current financial year, 1978-79. There has also been a decline in the country's exports, in part due to a 12-day strike in ports in November 1978. According to the latest figures, exports, including re-exports, during November 1978 were estimated at Rs. 293.79 crores, as compared to Rs. 313.59 crores during the corresponding period last year, indicating a fall of 8.7 per cent.

The total imports during the first eight months of the year are

put at Rs. 4,121-crore—21 per cent higher than the comparable figure in the corresponding period of the previous year—Rs. 3,400 crore. The increase in imports during two-thirds of the current year has been 6.7 per cent.

The deficit figures, however, are by no means indicative either of an industrial or trade recovery, since many factors contribute to the compilation of the data; for instance, in the import figures the timing of the arrival of bulk cargo, such as petroleum products and fertilizers, play a dominant role.

Amnesty International's Verdict

The practice of preventive detention has been prevalent for decades in India, and in some other countries also. Initially, in the 1977 March election manifesto, the Janata Party made a commitment to end the practice, but later, with the passage of time and the realisation that certain subversive elements continue to be active in some parts of the country, the Government modified its stand and even now the practice has not been abolished, though detentions of this type are being kept at a very low level, in striking contrast to the situation during Mrs Gandhi's rule when thousands of people were detained for long periods without trial. Early in January this year, Amnesty International, which won the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1977, for its humanitarian work on behalf of political prisoners all over the world, urged the Government of India to remove all legal provisions which authorise the Government to resort to this practice, and also to establish an independent body to examine complaints of ill-treatment and torture of prisoners to abolish the death penalty and improve conditions in prisons generally.

According to the Amnesty

committee which studied the position in India during 1978, there were about 500 to 1,000 political prisoners detained without trial. Many of them have since then been released. The Government of India's figure of such detentions on August 1, 1978, was 373. But the Amnesty International report contained allegations that there had been torture of prisoners, and even death in some cases, by the police during the period of custody and called upon the Janata Government to order an enquiry.

However, the Amnesty International (a London-based organisation) stated that the Janata Government was not responsible for any violation of human rights and it squarely blamed Mrs Gandhi's Government for several excesses. Amnesty International also praised the Desai Government for restoring the Rule of Law and removing from statute-book many of the laws regarding imprisonment without trial of political prisoners.

The organisation depicted the six years before March, 1977, as "the dark period of human rights" in India, because of the detention without trial, torture and even death of suspects during police custody.

Garland Canal Project

Mr Dinshaw Dastur, a noted technological expert and an aviation consultant from Bombay, recently outlined an ambitious project for a "Garland Canal" in the country to solve a host of irrigation and power problems. The plan has been welcomed by some people as a panacea for the country's many complex problems and criticised by others as fanciful, too ambitious, absurd and impracticable.

Professor R.S. Mithal, a geologist of Roorkee University, on January 4 warned that the
(Contd. on page 440)

Current International Affairs

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Big Four Secret Summit
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Vietnam Seizes Cambodia

A development of far-reaching importance took place on January 7 when Vietnamese forces, backed by the Soviet Union, captured Pnom Penh, capital of Cambodia (now called Kampuchea) and the Government led by Mr Pol Pot, backed by China, had to flee. The Cambodian rebels and insurgents joined the Vietnamese to liberate the Cambodian Capital from a government which was increasingly under pressure and was getting unpopular.

For several weeks earlier, border raids and fighting had been going on and the Cambodian Government had been complaining of aggressive attacks by the pro-Russian Vietnamese. The conquerors were the "revolutionary armed forces" of the rebel movements, the Kampuchean National Salvation Front. Some sources said that Khmer Rouge leaders, notably Mr Pol Pot, Prime Minister and Communist Party Secretary-General, Mr Leng Sary, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister, Mr Khieu Samphan, Head of State and Chairman of the Presidium, and members of the party central committee, were airlifted out in a Chinese plane on the morning of January 7. Pro-Vietnamese Cambodian rebels announced that they had captured the Cambodian capital of Pnom Penh, toppled the 45-month-old regime and now controlled almost the entire country.

The claim was also announced by the Vietnamese who are generally believed to have

done the bulk of the fighting in a lightning, two-week offensive, but credited the victories to a newly-formed National United Front for National Salvation.

"The red and yellow flags of the Front have been hoisted on many buildings in Pnom Penh". The insurgent army aided by the majority of the local population, also seized six provincial capitals.

Vietnam was naturally the first Government to recognise the new Government of the People's Revolutionary Council of Cambodia. Afghanistan, also an ally of Russia, followed Russia and the entire Eastern Europe Communist bloc also recognised it. Although the new Revolutionary Council claims to be exercising control over the whole of Cambodia, reports from other sources said that fighting was still being carried on in certain pockets. The fighting was particularly close to the Thailand border. In fact, within three days of the fall of Pnom Penh, the war swirled closer to the Thai border, with the Vietnamese and Cambodian forces pursuing the remnants westwards. The Thai border was closed and the army was put on the alert.

The situation became even more serious when it became known that world powers might be tempted to intervene in the conflict if it continued unchecked. This fear was expressed by Indonesia. ASEAN members were particularly feeling concerned over the implications of the pro-Soviet forces' victory and the possible reper-

missions on the peace and stability of the region.

By way of protest against the Soviet hand in the Vietnamese victory, Communist Rumania disassociated itself with the Soviet bloc and denounced the takeover of Cambodia as "a menace to world peace". The insurgency, according to a Rumanian source, is "a heavy blow to the prestige of Socialism and a threat to East-West detente.

On January 12, the Security Council held a debate on the Cambodian crisis, or rather the "Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea", the debate turning out to be often bitter with China calling for strong condemnation of Vietnam for its action. A Chinese resolution tabled in the Council demanded the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea immediately.

China also accused the Soviet Union of plotting the invasion. Its spokesman described Vietnam as the "Cuba of Asia". Prince Norodom Sihanouk, former Head of State now settled in China, spoke for the ousted Government of Cambodia, despite Russia's objections. If the Chinese resolution is put to vote, Russia is likely to veto it.

Cambodia War Reactions

An interesting development has been the different stand taken by the German Democratic Republic (*East Germany*), which is a close ally of the Soviet Union, on the question of Vietnamese aggression against Cambodia. While the Soviet Union has lent strong support to the Vietnamese forces which captured Cambodia, the G.D.R. joined India in deploring the trade among States to encroach on other States' territories.

The GDR President, Dr Erich Honecker, and Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, in their

joint statement issued after the Delhi talks, stated that inter-State relations should rest on principles such as the right of each people to choose their own political system; these should be renunciation of the use of force and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. They also reiterated their faith in non-alignment and their plea for zones of peace.

Another Soviet bloc country, Rumania, has taken an even stronger line and deplored Soviet-sponsored aggression against Cambodia. The Rumanian Government's statement clearly stated that there could be no justification for removing the head of the democratically constituted Kampuchean Government.

The statement said: "No reason and arguments whatsoever could justify intervention and interference in the affairs of another State." The aggravation of the Vietnam-Cambodia conflict, it added, was a severe blow to the policy of detente. It is understood that Yugoslavia is also upset at the Soviet manoeuvres in Cambodia.

New strains are also developing between Hanoi and Thailand. The relations between them have so far been cordial, but now hostility is developing.

In Japan also there has been strong resentment against the action taken by Vietnam, and, according to reports, the Government of Japan is having second thoughts on the 100-million sterling economic aid programme it had announced recently for 1978-79. Malaysian leaders have also felt disturbed over the manner in which the new Government in Cambodia was formed.

Intense Crisis in Iran

For over two months, Iran, the world's No. 2 oil producer

and a highly prosperous country headed by a monarch, Shah Reza Pahlavi, has been in unprecedented turmoil, with rioting, arson, martial law, endless shooting, destruction and killing of thousands of people during the prolonged agitation designed to oust the monarch. Iran is in ruins and its fabulous economy has been shattered.

But, despite all the rioting, bloodshed and destruction verging on a civil war, the Shah seemed determined to stay put on the throne and not to abdicate. He, however, agreed to go out of the country for a short period and to function as a strictly Constitutional monarch in future.

Earlier he was being actively backed by the U.S.A., but in the second week of January even his principal supporter, President Carter's administration, was reported to have advised him to quit the country since that seemed to be the only solution to the grave crisis in Iran.

On January 6, the situation in Iran took a dramatic turn towards normalcy when Dr Shapur Bakhtiar formed a civilian Government, putting an end to two months of military rule and utter chaos. Dr Bakhtiar presented Iran's new civilian Government to Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and told reporters afterwards that the Shah would maintain his position as a Constitutional monarch. The Shah gave his endorsement to Dr Bakhtiar's Cabinet, composed so far of 14 Ministers.

Meeting after the ceremony with Iranian reporters, the 62-year-old Prime Minister said the Shah would "reign constitutionally"—a reference to Bakhtiar's demand that the Shah strictly limit himself to the powers spelled out for the monarchy in the 1906 Constitution. He also told a news conference last Wednesday that he

may attempt to stop oil sales to Israel and to South Africa, and that Iran would no longer be the "gendarme" of the Persian Gulf.

But the new Cabinet faced a major crisis with the resignation threat of War Minister, Gen. Jam, the only military officer in the civilian Government.

Islamic Revolution Council

Even though the Shah of Iran has departed from the country on finding that his exit, for the present "on vacation" as Dr Bakhtiar, the new Prime Minister, has put it, was unavoidable, some of the controversies about the future of Iran continue, largely because of the feudal and religious leaders' role in the agitation.

Among the stormy petrels of Iran and a prominent Iranian opposition religious leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, who had taken refuge in Paris during the height of the rioting in Iran to escape the wrath of the monarch, announced on January 13 the establishment of a provisional "Council of the Islamic Revolution".

The Council's main aim would be to install a provisional Government to set up an Islamic republic. Mr Khomeini strongly refuted the new regime's contentions and said any gesture of co-operation with the new regime set up by the Shah would be unthinkable. He wishes to set up a truly Islamic State in Iran and made no secret of the fact that he intended to be the real ruler of the country. He said he himself would have a sole authority to appoint the Government, and felt that the Bakhtiar Government would never be able to establish a stable rule since he was "a mere stooge in the hands of the Shah."

Meanwhile, a Regency Council has been set up in Iran

to officiate for the Shah; this was designed to defuse the situation and lessen the Opposition hostility. Dr Bakhtiar, however, denied the rumours of a military coup, though he warned that a coup could not be ruled out if his Government failed. The Regency Council is composed of Dr Bakhtiar, the Court Minister, the armed forces chief, the chairman of the Houses of Parliament, the Minister for Justice and two other prominent Iranians.

In a policy statement, Dr Bakhtiar said his Government would follow a policy of independence, especially *vis-a-vis* the USA. But he warned that if the Russians tried to create trouble in the country, "he would not look away". He also warned that he would be pitiless against anyone who threatens the unity and integrity of Iran.

New Crisis in Rhodesia

Another dramatic development took place in Rhodesia—crisis ridden for many months—when, early in the New Year, a draft Constitution to facilitate black majority-rule, with a powerful measure of continued white influence, was published on January 7. The draft contained one major surprise—the name of the new country will be Zimbabwe Rhodesia. The name itself was another success for the whites in the planning of the new nation due to emerge after "one-man, one-vote" elections on April 20.

During years of struggle against white supremacy, black nationalists had always referred to their hoped-for new State simply as Zimbabwe. But in recent months the white minority had pressed strongly to have the name Rhodesia retained as a symbol of their achievements. Black nationalists in the bi-racial transitional Government evidently agreed to the

compromise name in an effort to bolster up the flagging morale of the whites.

The British Government has expressed reservations about the new draft Constitution. A Foreign Office spokesman said in London the document "reflects the internal agreement of March 3, 1978, which has been widely criticized." In the British view a wider agreement involving both sides to the conflict is the only basis for a ceasefire and a political settlement. Both black guerillas and the white conservative opposition have condemned the draft Constitution published by the multi-racial Government. The White Rightists call it treason and a sell-out, and the blacks condemn it as a betrayal of their cause.

The draft gives Rhodesia's white minority far-reaching and, in parts, a decisive say in all matters concerning military, political and economic affairs. Speaking for the "National Unifying Force", its chairman, Mrs Muriel Rosin, described the Constitution as drafted by the White Premier, Mr Ian Smith, and those black politicians taking part in the transitional Government, as a "straight path to hell".

Mr Noel Hunt, spokesman for the Conservative Alliance, thought that nothing could be worse than a black Government. The Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), one of the constituents of the nationalist guerilla movement, condemned the draft as a demonstration of the determination by the country's white minority to keep control of political and cultural life after the elections planned for next April. Viewed against the inevitability of victory by the liberation forces, the so-called constitution is cruel waste of paper, ZAPU stated in a statement issued in Lusaka. The movement took particular excep-

tion to the proposal to rename Rhodesia as "Zimbabwe Rhodesia".

Rhodesia-Mozambique War

Even while a new draft Constitution for Rhodesia has been published and there have been efforts at a reconciliation between the States of the region, Rhodesia has intensified military attacks on Mozambique in the last few weeks. Four of the country's 10 provinces have been subjected to a "series of barbarous attacks" which have even reached the areas around the provincial capitals.

The massive employment of jet planes and helicopters, the systematic use of napalm and extremely powerful bombs, reveal a calculated escalation in the aggression against the people of Mozambique which may lead to total war, warned a statement issued early in January by the Standing Political Committee of Frelimo, the only party in Mozambique.

The Rhodesian military command has reported that security forces had killed 41 guerillas in a 24-hour period in retaliation for the loss of two soldiers. The statement said that Rhodesians were not alone in their attacks on Mozambique. American helicopters of the latest design have just been delivered to Rhodesia. "It is imperialism which is attacking us. It attacks us behind the hidden mask of the Rhodesian racist regime because we have refused to sell out the people of Zimbabwe.

Meanwhile, the Z A N U (Zimbabwe African National Union) wing of the Patriotic Front has declared that it would not take part in any Constitutional conference on Zimbabwe designed to "undermine the arms struggle". ZANU has "liberated" eastern Zimbabwe and controlled more land than the racist regime, claimed the

Patriotic Front co-leader, Mr Robert Mugabe in a message to ZANU cadres, on January 9. "We are, indeed, the *de facto* Government of the country. We cannot, therefore, undermine the reality of our predominance by agreeing to an illegitimate political marriage with reactionary elements long rejected by the masses", the message said.

New Threat to Kabul Regime

Trouble is brewing for the pro-Moscow Tarakki Government in Afghanistan which seemed set for a long and stable Communist regime. Thousands of dissidents and guerillas, believed to be on their own and without the active backing of any anti-Soviet Power, attacked a strategic town in eastern Afghanistan for what could be a major battle in their campaign to oust the new Kabul regime. Many of the attackers are orthodox Muslims. The guerillas, fighting in the name of Islam, are bitterly opposed to the pro-Communist Afghanistan Government which took power in a bloody coup in April, 1977.

Dissident Afghan sources in a North-West Frontier town said 5,000 guerillas were poised for attack near Kunar province. The Government of President Noor Mohammad Tarakki moved 12,000 extra troops into Kunar province to help put down the insurrection. The guerillas hoped that by attacking Chigha Serai the guerillas could isolate Government troops in the area to allow a take-over of the whole province. Success at Chigha Serai would also encourage tribesmen close to the capital, Kabul, to spread the insurrection. But the guerillas were short of weapons and ammunition and many more armed with single-shot British rifles of World War I. There were even a few ivory-inland muskets with traditional curled stocks. Some assault rifles had

also been captured from Government forces.

Four months ago the guerillas, using age-old techniques of rushing the enemy under the cover of darkness, captured the town of Kamdesh, 65 km north of Chigha Serai. They have since held the town, despite constant attempts by Government forces to recapture it. Members of the two main dissident political parties have travelled through the Khyber Pass to Peshawar to establish their headquarters in exile. According to reports, the parties have been seeking help from Western embassies, pleading that the Communist control of Afghanistan, which is at the gateway to South Asia and the West Asian oil-fields, posed a threat to Western democracy. So behind the guerilla activity there may be secret U.S. influences at work in a bid to destabilise the pro-Communist regime.

Bangladesh Set for Poll

With the passage of time the prospect of a general election in Bangladesh in February are brightening. Some more political parties have decided to participate in the elections, though earlier they had resolved to boycott them. To appease these parties the Bangladesh Government has ordered the release of all political prisoners.

An announcement on January 6 said the Constitution would be amended so that the leader of the majority party could become Prime Minister and the Cabinet could be made answerable to Parliament. The decision followed a meeting between Vice-President Abdus Sattar and leaders of the Opposition parties which discussed conditions that would enable Opposition parties to take part in the elections.

Another announcement said the election date had been

shifted from February 12 to 18, the second time the polling date, originally fixed for January 27, has been shifted. The shifting follows a request from seven political parties for more time for them to take part in the elections.

The Bangladesh Mukti-Jodhya Sangsad (central organization of former freedom fighters) has announced it will resist the attempts by candidates who had opposed the 1971 war of liberation against Pakistan to contest elections, according to the largest Bengali daily, *Ittefaq*. The Sangsad, created after independence under Government patronage to look after the welfare of freedom fighters, supports President Zia-ur-Rahman and his Government.

Egypt-Israel Peace Parleys

Although Mr Sadat of Egypt and Mr Begin of Israel have both been awarded the 1978 Nobel Prize for Peace, there seems to be no sign yet of an early signing of an agreement to ensure a durable peace in West Asia. Israel is adamant, though it was known that Egypt had softened its stand on the key points of the dispute with Israel over a peace treaty but still insists on a time-table for Palestinian self-rule.

The Egyptian views on how the deadlocked peace talks could be resumed were contained in a letter sent by the Prime Minister, Mr Mustapha Khalil, to the U.S. Secretary of State Mr Cyrus Vance, in Washington. The official source said that Egypt had left it to the U.S.A. to decide at what level the talks should be resumed, technical or ministerial.

Egypt was prepared to resume the talks anytime and anywhere, but, he said, his Government had not changed its position on the need for any treaty to be linked to a time

table for elections on the Jordan West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Egypt would accept the implementation of self-rule in Gaza first. Israel has so far refused to link the treaty to any specific time-table for the Palestinians. Egypt argues that a specific time table would guarantee a comprehensive settlement of the West Asia conflict. The absence of such a time table would make the peace treaty a separate agreement and, as such, unacceptable to Egypt, according to Foreign Ministry sources. On the key points of dispute with Israel, Dr Mustapha Khalil had made it clear in his letter to Mr Vance that Egypt would accept the U.S. interpretation of Article 6 of the Draft Treaty. This interpretation affirms Egypt's right to meet its obligations under the 1951 collective Arab Defence Pact in the event of an armed aggression against any Arab State.

Thus the position taken up by Egypt and Israel remain basically unchanged, with a peace settlement no nearer, though the possibility of armed clashes has been averted for the present.

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U.S. and China Resume Ties

On January 1, two of the biggest world Powers, the U.S.A. and China, resumed diplomatic ties after a break of nearly three decades, thus ending a stalemate based on a stiff political strategy, mutual suspicions and also on the dispute over Taiwan (*Formosa*), which was the American stooge, almost a protectorate, fed and propped up by U.S. money and military equipment. The U.S. in fact treated the small island of Formosa as China, blatantly ignoring the realities, and Formosa occupied for many years China's seat in the U.N. Security Council.

Since Formosa is no longer considered necessary by U.S.

military strategists, the Americans have sacrificed and dropped it almost like a hot brick. The U.S. broke diplomatic relations with Taiwan on January 1.

Besides, the ties with China open up vast economic opportunities for American industry. China itself is seeking Western aid and technology for expediting its economic industrial and nuclear development. The U.S.-China diplomatic ties are, in addition, a rebuff to the Soviet Union.

China hopes to get Taiwan back peacefully this year, but does not rule out regaining it by "other than peaceful means", Vice-Premier Hsiao-ping Teng declared on January 6. To rule out other means, the Vice-Premier told American correspondents, would tie down China's hands. But he emphasised that a peaceful reunification of the main land and the big offshore island of Taiwan was Peking's goal.

Mr Teng said his Government would be taking a variety of "measures in different forms" to bring round Chiang Ching-Kuo and other leaders of the Nationalist Chinese Government on Taiwan. Mr Chiang has, however, repeatedly rejected negotiations with the Communists and his Government has rebuffed the overtures Peking has been making almost daily.

U.S. Weapons Superiority over Russia

Even while talks for limitation of strategic armaments continue and hopes are being repeatedly expressed about curbing the suicidal arms race, scientists and military experts of both Powers continue to develop more and more devices to establish superiority over their rivals and evolve methods to quash and "kill" the missiles of the enemy.

The latest example is provided by the new U.S. anti-submarine defence systems which are now so sophisticated technologically that the USA could destroy all Soviet missile-launching submarines. The new US technology, it is said, can even distinguish the type of Soviet submarine in action by accurately judging the sound produced while in action. To avoid leakages and to safeguard its own specialised type of submarines, the Soviet Union seems to have decided to keep its missile "subs" close to its coast.

It may be noted that the latest submarine technology does not figure in the new round of the SALT talks so that technically, though not in spirit, the new scientific achievement is within the permissible limits.

Meanwhile, France has given a rebuff to both the USA and the Soviet Union—and thus increased the chances of a proliferation of armaments—by announcing that it will not be bound by any future strategic arms limitation accords between the two Powers and will not even participate in any such talks.

The fact is that France wishes to maintain its own independent nuclear deterrent. It may be recalled that even in respect of the big-Power decisions to prevent the proliferation of nuclear plants in various parts of the world France had retained its options and had resolved to supply a reprocessing plant to France and to some other countries, including China. It was after a good deal of pressure that France ultimately fell in line with U.S. policy.

France has, however, expressed the hope that a new SALT agreement would soon be signed. But the French intentions to keep its armaments industry flourishing, regardless

of the repercussions on world peace, are evident.

Big Four Secret Summit

The world's Big Four Powers—the U.S.A., Britain, France and West Germany—held a secret summit for two days, on January 5 and 6, on a French Caribbean island, Guadeloupe, to sort out urgent security and political problems. The Western leaders gave strong assurances that they would not allow their developing relations with China damage their drive for a detente with the Soviet Union.

The British Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, and the West German Chancellor, Mr Helmut Schmidt, told President Carter at an open-air meeting with reporters that they hoped the long-drawn-out talks on a new Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement (SALT) with the Soviet Union would be completed and the pact ratified as soon as possible. Both European leaders promised to do everything they could to hasten the process.

The summit host, President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, did not specifically mention the SALT negotiations. But he claimed there were no differences among the four Powers on world problems, although there were some differences of emphasis. All four leaders hailed what President d'Estaing called a "direct personal and useful meeting". President Carter felt there was almost unprecedented harmony among them. "I have never attended a conference which was more beneficial to me nor more substantive in nature."

On relations with China, President Carter, speaking with great emphasis, said the Powers were all in agreement that the emergence of China had been a constructive development, and they were all determined to en-

hance this development and ensure that "it never becomes an obstacle to detente". It might possibly be used in the future as an avenue for strengthening the ties of friendship and harmony with the Soviet Union.

The powers continued their search for a magic formula to solve the world's security and political problems, even though no final and specific conclusions were reached. They however agreed on a common approach and a common strategy against the Soviet Union.

At the summit President Carter, Mr Callaghan, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and President Giscard warned Russia against questioning China's relations with the West because of U.S. recognition of China. These leaders of the U.S.A., Britain, West Germany and France agreed that U.S. relations with China were a positive factor and should not in any way be detrimental to the policy of detente, which the USSR should not bring into question.

The discussion covered China, the crisis in Iran, which has jeopardized much of Europe's oil supplies, and relations of the heavily industrialized nations with the less developed nations. But the powers seemed divided over whether Britain and France should supply arms to the Chinese, a step which Russia has warned would endanger detente ("supplying modern arms and military technology to China was to play with fire and Russia could not remain indifferent to this").

The four leaders had decided to hold an informal summit conference when they attended the seven-nation economic summit in Bonn in July, 1977, and found they had too little time to assess world developments in privacy.

The Western leaders reviewed the world's trouble spots

identified by the French Government spokesman as Iran, West Asia, Turkey, Pakistan and Africa. The exchanges on how to deal with crisis situations also covered the safe-guarding of oil supplies and development aid in Africa, with special reference to heavily-indebted Zaire. Both Mr Callaghan and Mr Schmidt said the situation in several trouble-spots gave cause for serious concern, but added that the general world situation had improved during the past two years.

Mr Carter's assessment was that former enemies had become friends, potential enemies had sought to avoid violence by close consultations and negotiations, and existing friendships had been strengthened. The leaders assured the world that they were all friends and agreed on almost all issues—a claim that can be accepted only with a grain of salt.

Move for World State

Visionaries from 35 countries, who dream of establishing a World Parliament finally leading to a World State, took a concrete step towards fulfilment when, meeting in Colombo for 10 days (from late December to early January), they constituted a World Constituent Assembly.

More than 300 delegates called for the establishment of a provisional world parliament before 1982. The delegates to the "Constituent Assembly", ranging from members of Parliament to university professors, businessmen and representatives of religious organisations, declared in their concluding document that only a democratic world federal Government could peacefully solve the various global crises now endangering life on earth.

The "World Constituent Assembly" met under the auspices of the Colorado-based World Constitution and Parlia-

ment Association. It decided to urge members of national parliaments to introduce a Bill directing their respective Governments to collaborate with other Governments in convening a World Constituent Assembly to prepare a Constitution for a federal world Government.

The Assembly noted that such a Bill, introduced in the Indian Parliament by Mr H.V. Kamath in July, 1977, was being debated "with much support". Mr Kamath, a strong campaigner for the idea of a world Government, was present at the Colombo session where he explained to the other delegates the provisions of his Bill and the encouraging response it had received in India.

The Assembly also decided to urge members of national parliaments to give consideration to a draft of a "Constitu-

tion for the federation of the earth", adopted at its second session held in Austria last year.

The Assembly resolved that its members should meet leaders of national governments to secure their co-operation and support for the world Government proposal.

The World Constituent Assembly decided to hold its next session in Nigeria in 1980 and to meet again in Mexico or Costa Rica the following year to pursue its proposal. Messages wishing the Assembly success had been sent by the Prime Ministers of India and Canada, the Presidents of Maldives and Costa Rica, and by the U.N. Secretary-General. The delegates dispersed with the conviction that their proposal for a world Government was gaining support in different countries.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS (Contd. from page 433)

Dastur plan of "garland canals" for a national water grid, if implemented, would cause more problems than it could solve, increase earthquake possibilities, affect groundwater and make the surface water salty. Thereby, vast areas of land will be made infertile.

The plan has secured some backing of United Nations Organization and is now being examined by a Planning Commission Committee under instructions from the Prime Minister.

In essence, the plan envisages a Himalayan canal garlanding the southern slope of the Himalayan region, and a central and southern garland canal encircling peninsular India. It involves over 11,000 km long canals with over 300 integrated lakes.

Professor Mithal, who is the President of the Geology Section of the Science Congress, said that a critical analysis of the geo-technical set-up of the

Indian peninsula and knowledge of sediment transport indicates that the water grid proposed in this plan might suffer more perennial problems than it would solve. The Professor warned that the proposed canals and lakes at 400-metre elevation would have a drastic impact on the groundwater intake of the fertile Bhabhar and Tarai regions.

The groundwater regime south of Tarai belt will also be affected as a result of shallowing of the water-table leading to surface salination of vast areas with consequent infertility of land. Certain other experts have further warned that the huge landslides, erosion, and sediments in the catchment areas may damage the reservoirs and the canals. The scale of silting in the Himalayan canal would be so enormous that it could cost more than the total cost of the proposed project for desilting operations.

Socialism, Capitalism and Human Rights

The 30th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights was celebrated on December 10, 1978, in scores of countries, especially in the West. But what is the reality behind the paper guarantees of basic human rights? Are such rights more secure in Western countries and under the capitalist system than in Communist countries? This special feature examines the relative position and presents the realities.

In recent years countless doctrines, declarations and high-sounding principles have been thrown overboard and callously sacrificed at the altar of political expediency, which includes an all-out bid for survival. Among the principles which have thus suffered is that of universal human rights, which has almost become a political weapon. The basic social, cultural, economic and political rights of an individual, seemingly non-controversial in modern society, have, in fact, become a hot subject of controversy between the Big Powers, especially the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union. Pursuance of this widely accepted doctrine at times threatens to strain diplomatic relations and cause international tensions. Curiously enough, both the Soviet Union—as an outstanding example of a successful Socialist system—and the U.S.A.—as the leading capitalist country—pose as champions of human rights. Both look at the question from different angles, but each accuses the other of denying such basic rights to millions of its people, even while both of them have skeletons in their cupboards.

Nearly 60 years ago, Mahatma Gandhi said that every good movement passes through five stages: indifference, ridicule, abuse, repression and, finally, respect. Until recently, the abuse of human rights had become so common that most

governments regarded such cases of violation with indifference. The subsequent three stages of ridicule, abuse and repression have been noticeable in the Soviet Union and other Socialist and Communist countries. Genuine respect for human rights takes a long time coming; it is believed to have come in the U.S.A., India and in several West European and African countries. As civilisation advances and mankind makes progress, enlightenment about the importance of basic human rights comes, well and truly. But the fact that even in the modern world there are dark corners where basic human rights are being denied is a blot on civilisation.

It is a moot question whether human rights are guaranteed better under Socialism or under Capitalism; perhaps neither of these economic and political philosophies have much to do directly with the issue of human rights. Much depends upon the general approach of the government of the day and the awareness of the people. It is also true to say that human rights, like economics and politics, have been intertwined with the political struggles of the U.S.A. and several other countries of the East and the West. With the passage of years, gradually and in some cases even imperceptibly, the compulsions of human rights have infused a new dynamism into politics

and also led to speedier all-round development.

On December 10, 1978, the world celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights made by the United Nations General Assembly way back in 1948. The Declaration is, by common consent, the cornerstone of a developing international consensus on human rights. It gave an authoritative interpretation of the U.N. Charter; by signing the charter the members of this august organisation undertook to promote, respect and observe human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind. Implementation of the Declaration of Human Rights is no easy task; much has to be assured before the goal can be achieved and before world matches the deed.

Internationally recognised human rights are set out, in the main, in three U.N. documents—the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (also of 1966). The International Covenant includes such rights as the Right to Work (Art. 6) which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity of gaining his living by the work which he freely chooses or accepts....

Article 7 pertains to the right to the enjoyment of just and favourable conditions of work which ensure, in particular, rest, leisure and reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay as well as remuneration for public holidays. Article 9 of the Covenant says the States recognise the right of everyone to social security, including social insurance. Article 13 urges the States to fully implement the following principles: Primary education shall be compulsory and free to all; secondary and higher education shall be made equally accessible to all by every appropriate means and, in particular, by the progressive introduction of free education.

Far more important is the right assured by Article 19 of the Covenant, which says: "Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion... freedom to demonstrate one's religion or beliefs may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, or health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others."

The two other principal U.N. documents on human rights are: the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Convention on the elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination. An American measure for the same purpose, the American Convention on Human Rights, was signed by President Carter on June 1, 1977. Eleven nations of the American continent have already ratified this Convention which has already come into force.

Thus the great struggle to realise the basic rights of all men and women goes on. Human beings, at any rate the brave and conscientious among them, continue to strive for justice and human dignity suffer-

ing much in the process. In fact, the creation and evolution of the United Nations system is a clear testimony to mankind's attempt to work together for the fulfilment of basic human rights. It may be recalled that the U.N. was established after World War I to provide for the states' basic right of survival in the face of potential man-made holocaust or nuclear destruction.

The question arises as to what the Western countries have done for safeguarding human rights and what has been the role of the Soviet Union in this regard. The U.S.A. claims that it has throughout pursued a determined human rights policy. Thousands of political prisoners have been set free in a number of countries as a result of U.S. pressure (at any rate, so it is claimed). Emigration statistics have been increasing in several regions. Moreover, in both Latin America and Africa, military governments have returned to civilian rule or started the process, developing new constitutions through constituent assemblies, freely elected from among all the people.

The Western nations have also done what they could to negotiate the transfer of power from the Government of South Africa to the people of Namibia (*South-West Africa*) following free and democratic elections. Unfortunately, South Africa has repeatedly defied the U.N. and in December conducted elections under its own supervision and control. The U.N. has also tried to safeguard the basic rights of blacks in South Africa and have often condemned the notorious policy of apartheid. The West has also attempted to bring Mr Ian Smith's oppressive rule to an end in Rhodesia and to provide black majority rule, but so far without success. In both South Africa and Rhodesia basic human rights are still being denied to millions of black

people. Human rights have also been denied in several other countries, including Argentina and certain other Latin American countries, a few African countries like Uganda where autocrats and virtual dictators rule, in some Middle East and West Asian countries, such as Iran. Nor is the Far East free from oppressive regimes. In Pakistan, Bangladesh and also in China the people do not get all the rights which those living in the West get. Late in November Amnesty International urged China to repeal laws providing for punishment for non-violent expression of beliefs and also degrading treatment of prisoners. The Japanese, however, enjoy full freedom.

The largest and most significant country where human rights are still being denied, despite loud claims to the contrary, is the Soviet Union. Freedom of expression and of the press are virtually non-existent and the oppression of hundreds of political dissidents continues. Concentration camps have not been abolished, and those writers who differ from the official Communist line languish and die in jails, while the more daring of the lot just disappear from the scene. According to the Helsinki Accord between the East and the West, the Soviet Union agreed to give basic political rights to everyone, but the signing of the agreement has made very little difference to the situation in this regard.

But the Soviet Union points constantly to the high-sounding rights which it has guaranteed to its citizens, especially through its new Constitution of 1977. Such rights include the right to work, which also includes the right to choose one's profession in accordance with ability, training and education, and "with due account of the needs of society". This right is assured by the Socialist economic

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Economics of Population Growth

India, nay the world, is in the grip of population explosion. Can economic development find a solution to this baffling problem? What is the impact of the burgeoning population on economic development? Recent studies have thrown new light on these controversial questions. This feature attempts, briefly though, the answers to these questions in the context of these studies. —Editor

The economic-demographic nexus has, in one form or another, been a debatable issue. In his historic work "An Essay on Population", Malthus established a link between food and population. Edwin Cannan propounded the optimum theory of population which stressed the relationship between the national income and population. The proposition has acquired new import as the under-developed countries in the grip of burgeoning population have embarked upon planned development of their economies in the past few decades. India, too, is faced with such a situation. What is the impact of the expanding population on our economic development? Can economic development contain the nightmarish population growth? An attempt to find answers to these questions is made here.

Delineation of the Problem

For effective handling of any problem it is necessary that it is properly delineated. It is platitudinous to affirm here that the population-base of India has, over the years, grown very wide. With 1921—the great demographic divide—as the base-year, the index number of population in 1971 stood at 248 as against 95 in 1901. If the decadal growth rate of 1961-71 continues unabated, the population may double to 1096 million in the next two decades or so. This explosive situation is attributable to the substantial decline in the death rate from 48·6 in 1911-21 to 18·9 in 1961-71 while the

birth rate has steaded around 40 per thousand of population. It was 49·2 in 1901-11 but declined to 41·1 in 1961-71. The continued high birth rate and the considerable decline in mortality rate have created a very broad base and a tapering top. India adds 13 million—or an Australia—every year. For this increase we need: 112,000 schools; 330,000 teachers; 2,220,000 houses; 1,670,000 metres of cloth; 11,100,000 quintals of foodgrains and 3,540,000 jobs.

According to these figures India should have 50 times of all these items to meet the demand of the existing population, which is estimated at 650 million. The picture appears more bleak when account is taken of the fact that the rapidly growing population implies abundance of the younger people. Differently put, India is growing younger and younger as the population increases. According to the projections of the Planning Commission the population below 15 years in 1979 will be 38·4 per cent. In the developing nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America, also, the younger people under 15 are estimated to account for 40 per cent by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. This section of the population will soon be over 15 years and swell the ranks of the unemployed and the under-employed in the country. It will also mean a big youth force to be reckoned with both in India and other parts of the Third World. As life

expectancy increased and there are more and more people over sixty (5·5 per cent in 1979, 6·0 per cent in 1984 and 6·2 per cent in 1986) the clash of interests between the young and the olds will be sharpened.

Faced with colossal problems of poverty and massive unemployment, in particular, the best pill for India seems to be the economic development. Despite the inexorable link between the economic development and the population, the pace of economic growth in the developing areas, including India, is painfully slow. Poverty is at once both an instant cause and an effect of a high fertility rate. The Indian government appropriately pioneered measure to control the human fertility way back in 1952.

India's Experience

During the last quarter of a century of operations of family planning, double-pronged attack has been made; first, at the individual or family level and second on the societal level. At the family level, the strategy was to make a quick-result-oriented approach and therefore the birth control measures were merely restricted to the provision of clinics and primary health centres. The eligible couples were expected voluntarily to use the family planning facilities. The second phase of this facility was the introduction of incentives to the individuals who sought to limit permanently the size of the family through

sterilization. As the persuasive approach failed to yield the expected results, the government had perforce to resort to coercive and punitive measures. It adopted disincentives like stoppage of increments, promotions, service benefits etc.

At the societal level, the government geared the mass media to create the necessary climate in favour of accepting the small family norms as a way of life. In the educational institutions, efforts were made to inculcate among the youngsters the new family norms. "Catch-them-young" approach could possibly yield results in the long run only. Motivations involving a change in attitude is a long-term phenomenon. With the advent of the Janata party, the government is back to square one in the matter of population policy. Family planning is regarded as a purely voluntary affair and the use of family planning clinics and primary health centres is left entirely to the sweet will of the individuals. The result is a rapid fall in sterilization cases. India's experience vividly highlights the fact that clinical methods of family planning would prove infructuous unless they are backed by force of personal predilection or fear of punishment. At the same time, the lesson of adopting coercive measures is that all family planning programmes should be spearheaded by the people and that the voluntary agencies should be inspired by the spirit of service and not by mercenary or political motives. It is believed that the population and educational policies of the Janata government, if implemented vigorously, may complement and supplement each other to usher in a new renaissance.

FP and Economic Development

Can family planning (FP) be dissociated from economic development? Asoka Mitra says that "the progress of family

planning as a matter of willing acceptance and a way of life, as distinct from an imposed bureaucratic programme, has thus a very strong association with development. The case of dissociation between development and family planning as alternative paths of investment has not yet been conclusively demonstrated." The view of some modern demographers is that FP and development have a positive association. Asoka Mitra's empirical study of the FP performance also upholds this. Roughly 20 per cent of the variability in performance in States, investigated by him, is attributed to factors like *per capita* income, percentage of urban population and literacy rate. An over-rider may be added here. The higher level of development is not a sufficient condition for a higher performance index in FP; it is only a 'plus' factor conducive to it.

In a recent study Julian L. Simon says that the short-run effect of a rise in income in traditional subsistence agricultural sector is to increase fertility but the long-run effect is to decrease it. According to him, the relationship between income and fertility is non-linear. The inequality of income is negatively correlated with fertility. That means the rich family/nation may have a low birth rate and the poor family/nation may have a high birth rate. The fertility-reducing effect of income rise could come about only after a decade or more. The Government may also not adopt any income re-distribution policy to achieve lower fertility rate.

In the light of these findings it is pertinent to add here that the effect of the Green Revolution in the Punjab, Haryana and other wheat-growing States may have been increase in population as the income rose there. But one may also hope for a decrease in population in the

next few decades.

A question is often asked whether an additional child is economically desirable or not. No simple or categorical answer is possible, for it depends more on values, the economic conditions and the choice of welfare criteria. In India the low-income group of people still welcome every additional child as an asset because he/she can help supplement the income of the family at a very young age. In the villages, the child attends to the odd jobs of the family such as taking the cattle to a place for drinking water etc.

Is it, then, better to have a moderate growth of population or a stationary population? In the long-run, moderate growth rate of population in less developed countries leads to a higher per worker income and has a positive effect on the living standards compared with the stationary population or very fast growth of population. It is, therefore, more desirable to have a moderate growth rate.

Conclusion

The national commitment of economic development calls for integration of population growth (at a very moderate rate) with economic growth. The national population policy (of April 16, 1976) made this as the core objective "towards building a strong and prosperous India in the years and decades to come." It envisaged a shift from the urban-elitist approaches of the past to a much more imaginative and vigorous rural-oriented approach. It also emphasized female literacy but scrupulously aschewed compulsory sterilization or the enactment of any law to enforce sterilization. Multi-faceted mass-media was intended to be harnessed into service as a potent vehicle for rapid spread of the family planning programmes.

Reservation of Seats for Backward Classes ?

This feature is devoted to one of the most "sensitive" and controversial issues being debated in the country. It has generated more heat than light. A dispassionate study is made here in the hope of better enlightenment and understanding.

—Editor

Introduction

Equality of status and opportunity is inhered in the Constitution of India. Accordingly Article 15(4) authorised, since 1951, the States to make "special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes". In electoral exuberance, the Janata party pledged in its election (March 1977) manifesto to fulfil this Constitutional obligation. It promised to reserve between 25 and 33 per cent of all appointments to government services for the backward classes. But since its victory a controversy has raged about the policies of certain States (notably Bihar) regarding the reservation of jobs in the government service and seats in the educational institutions.

Let us first take up the arguments for the proposition.

Egalitarian society

As already stated, our national commitment to a casteless and classless society demands that the social, economic, educational and cultural disparities should be minimised. It follows that the individuals, groups, castes or communities which are backward in these respects must be accorded preferential treatment. There are no two opinions about this. But the implementation of the policies formulated towards that end presents some insuperable difficulties.

Equal opportunity

An important reason for social and economic inequalities is the lack of equality of opportunities due to inhibitions imposed by historical or societal causes. In the traditional society like ours, custom, birth, occupation etc. play an important part. The safeguards provided for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in Articles 338 and 340 of the Indian Constitution appear to have been the outcome of the pre-Independence decisions in the matter as influenced by Mahatma Gandhi.

After the attainment of Independence, the canon of equality to all citizens before the law, embodied in the Constitution, conferred the inalienable right of equality on all sections of society, high or low. With the growing awareness, even the lowliest in the social ladder have begun to claim and receive such opportunities as would enable him to step up and stand shoulder to shoulder with the highest.

In the case of the backward classes, scheduled castes/scheduled tribes, the founding fathers did not envisage fixation of any time limit as had been done in the case of the Anglo-Indians *vide* Article 336 of the Constitution. Perhaps, the enormity and the slow nature of the social change precluded this.

Political grounds

As a far-sighted statesman, Mahatma Gandhi expressed deep and consistent concern

even before Independence to bring the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes within the Congress fold. The Congress party on coming into power after Independence appropriately extended its political net to woo the backward classes also. But the Constitutional provisions in Article 15(4) (made through the first amendment of the Constitution in 1951) adroitly left the definition of backwardness quite flexible. The analysis of the electoral results over the last 30 years clearly show that the Congress party had been well rewarded for it. The scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and the backward classes have stood by it in retaining power by returning the party at the hustings. Their voting power has increased over the years because, as the census shows, their population growth rate has been far higher than that of other communities. Poor as they are, every additional child is an asset and a potential earner to supplement the income of the family. The family planning programmes have only touched the fringes in their cases.

Economic rationale

Nehru once said that poverty anywhere is a danger to prosperity everywhere. Since India had decided to embark upon economic development, designed to bring about socio-economic transformation, it was in the fitness of things to take protectionist measures for the socially backward and down-trodden people. Moreover, the mea-

asures for demographic control taken simultaneously with the economic planning programmes would have failed to yield any results if the socially and educationally backward classes had been left out.

Arguments against reservations

Criteria for BCC: The first difficulty in implementation of the Constitutional provisions is as to what should be the criteria for the identification of the backward classes (BCC). While educational backwardness is ascertainable, the "social" backwardness is not. The term backward classes has different meaning in different places and since every State has the authority to list up the backward classes in it there is bound to be diversity in criteria for laying down preferential treatment.

The flexibility of the words "socially backward classes" in the definition of the term backwardness meant greater arbitrariness and less uniformity in the selection of the backward classes by the State governments. Allegations are galore against them for permissibility of communal units in distributing preferences. Nehru recognised the conceptual lacunae indirectly when he said (on March 18, 1953) that he disliked the term backward classes and that it was basically wrong to label any section as backward even if it were so, particularly when 90 per cent of the Indians are poor and backward. Nearly the whole of the nation is "backward", both socially and economically. It is, therefore, discriminatory to categorize certain castes, groups, communities or individuals as "backward".

The irony is that the backward classes Commissions, too, have been incompetent to prescribe any criteria for backwardness, though they have recommended a vast array of schemes for the protection and advancement of the backward, including

a number of changes in rural life—re-distribution of land, protection of tenants, help to the small agriculturists. Reservation of jobs in government services have also been proposed as at least 25 per cent in Class I, 33 per cent in Class II and 40 per cent in Class III and IV. Reservation of 70 per cent seats in medical, scientific and technical colleges has also been suggested.

Divisive tendencies

In order to have a bigger chunk of reservations, each community is vying with others to display its backwardness. This has led to divisive tendencies and negated the efforts at emotional and national integration. To combat this evil, the Prime Minister, Mr Morarji Deesai, has convened a conference of all chief ministers, the leaders of opposition parties and groups in the Parliament and other leaders of thought and the recently-constituted Minority Commission. The venom of caste-ism has infected the social fabric ever more. The Bihar State, for example, is in the grip of communal riots and violence is let loose by the conflicts between the reservationists and the anti-reservationists in the State. Social backwardness has been equated with castes not realizing that a Brahmin who is economically backward will remain out of the backward classes list based on caste labels as determined by the government. A recent village study has revealed that in Assam "the poorest of the poor are the Brahmins who have the lowest *per capita* income of Rs. 411 annually".

The experience of the British regime should be an eye opener to the advocates of reservation policy. India had been bulked because of the divisive tendencies whose seed had been sown by the British government in India through reservations in government services and legis-

lations. The prolonged and continuous efforts of the Indian national leaders to counter the growth of communal forces so generated failed to keep the two main communities united.

Once-protected-ever-protected

Like industries, communities also become protection "in-ebriated". They treat reservations of jobs in government services or seats in universities/colleges as crutches and never try to stand on their own legs. Once-protected-ever-protected attitude kills initiative and *esprit de corps*. In consideration of such fall-out, the Article 336 (1) of the Constitution relating to special provision for Anglo-Indian community provides for "de-reservation" enjoining that all "reservations shall cease" by 1960. No such provision has been made or contemplated even after a lapse of 30 years in the case of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and backward classes. In fact, the demand for its continuance, enhancement and strengthening is more pressing.

Employment

The Janata Government has rightly emphasized the employment aspect of planning in the current plan. The question relevant to our proposition is whether the protectionist measures taken for the backward classes in some of the States, notably Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan is the remedy. To say the least, it is not. The cure of the problem lies in employment generation and not in reservation of the few job opportunities that exist.

Low efficiency standards

It needs no labouring to point out that the standards of efficiency in the hierarchy of administration and in the educational institutions have deteriorated over the years. One reason for that is the policy of

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Should there be a Constitutional Right to Strike?

The Industrial Relations Bill is under consideration with the Union Government and is likely to be presented soon before the Parliament. The question of 'legal' or 'constitutional' provision for the 'right to strike or lock-out' has gained topicality. This panel discussion presents the view-points of the workers, employers and the government on the controversial proposition.

—Editor

Worker: The Constitution of India provides that "the State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work" (Article 41). The State is, thus, obligated to secure to the citizens the "right to work". Impliedly, the worker should also have been given explicitly the "right not to work". The fact that no provision has been made to this effect is a very serious omission (or shall I say, an act of commission on the part of the Constitutional fathers?). The labour unions have, for long, been pressing their demand for the grant of such a right. But the government has, all along, been resisting it and the strikes have continued unabated.

Employer: It would be more correct to say that the strikes and lockouts have increased over the years both in frequency and intensity in terms of duration, the mandays lost and the destruction of property. There has been a spate of strikes in a variety of forms. We have had sit-down strikes, pen-down strikes, go-slows, work-to-rule, token strikes, gheraos, bandhs, lock-outs etc. During the seven-month period from January to July, the mandays lost due to work "stoppages" stood as high as 31.3 million in 1974, and declined to 17.6 million in 1975, 6.5 million in 1976 and 5.7 million in 1977. The steep fall in the mandays lost during the

last three years is traceable to the curbs on strikes/lockouts and the fall in the number of workers involved in the wake of the Emergency clamped on India as from June 25, 1975 till January 1977.

Government: The crucial question is whether the alleged act of omission or commission has discouraged strikes. Strikes have been launched despite the absence of any constitutional right to do so as the Statistics cited just now reveal. Would not the conferment of such a right have provided a leverage to strikers? Almost all, if not all, the trade union constitutions invariably provide an enabling clause for the unionists to stage a strike as and when they wish. Thus, the strike is recognised as a legitimate right to be exercised within the limits of the trade union constitutions. Would there be any difference if, as demanded, the right to strike were inscribed into our country's Constitution?

Employer: I think that this is not the question which merits our attention. What is really important is to inquire as to why the Constitutional fathers failed to embody in the Constitution the "right to strike". The reason is obvious. They regarded such a provision as something negative which would be prejudicial to the interests of the national economy. Such a provision would have been repugnant to the spirit of the Directive Principles of State Policy

which contain the "right to work". Moreover, it would have been a problem to abridge such a right if and when the socio-economic or political conditions in the country so demand.

Worker: The right to strike/lockout is recognised in all democratic societies. In a constitutional set-up like ours, its omission from the Constitution is interpretable as an abridgement of the workers' democratic right.

Government: This is over-reaction on the part of the trade unions. Nobody is in favour of a ban on the right to strike/lockout. But that should not mean a licence for unrestricted right to direct action which is, indeed, the workers' demand.

Employer: It would be wrong to maintain that the non-inclusion of the right to strike/lockout was (or is) a strategy to constrict workers'/employers' freedom. In fact, it is a recognition of the need to impose a reasonable constraint on the use of this right consistent with our social, economic and political values or norms. Otherwise, the right to work cannot be effectively "secured" in an atmosphere of chaos and anarchy.

Government: Such restraint on strikes/lockouts is conducive to industrial harmony and national prosperity. To achieve this objective and to give greater freedom to workers to exercise

their legitimate democratic right to strike, a distinction is made between public utility services and the private industries. The former include industries such as Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, power generation units, water supply, light and public conservancy or sanitation.

Worker: We must remember that legal restrictions envisaged by various laws will not be of any help in reducing strikes/lockouts or in containing the new forms of labour protests.

Government: The Government has never contemplated any steps to circumscribe or curtail strikes/lockouts. Nor does it wish to declare any concerted action on the part of workers/employers as illegal as it would bring the law into disrepute.

Worker: It is strange logic that the non-existent right is being treated as if it is omnipresent. And, *alibis* are advanced to justify its non-inclusion in the Constitution. The government is playing a ruse on the workers/employers.

Government: The charge levelled against the government is, I am afraid, untenable. Our Government is irrevocably committed to function as a welfare State. As protectors of the poor and defenders of the weak and the down-trodden, it cannot (and does not) take any step prejudicial to the interests of the workers. The government is also one of the biggest employers and its duties and responsibilities have grown, and will continue to be so, with the expansion of the public sector. The government has, therefore, to act as a "model employer" for their counterparts in the private sector. By not having provided the right to lockout, it has denied to itself that right. The private sector employers would do well to follow suit.

Employer: The employers in the State sector and the pri-

vate sector cannot be at par with each other. The private employer cannot reconcile himself to the situation in which the labour does not produce anything and yet refuses to forego its claim on the job and the wage-payment. Lock-outs are only the last resorts with the employers and are quite infrequent. In fact, the workers create intolerable conditions which force the employer to lock-out.

Government: The right to strike or to lock-out are the two sides of the same coin. One is used by the labour and the other by the employer. To abjure both would be ideal. But it calls for a change of attitude. Instead of abjuring the right to strike (or demanding it to be raised in the status of a constitutional provision), the labour has been innovating new variants of strikes, such as gheraos. As the National Commission on Labour (1969) observed "Gheraos, apart from their adverse effects on industry and economy of the country, strike at the very root of trade unionism. They endanger not only industrial harmony but also create problems of law and order. If such means are to be adopted by labour for the realization of its claims, trade unions may come into disrepute".

Worker: Gheraos are a form of industrial protest. As such there is no justification to bar them and thereby restrict democratic freedom and other freedoms provided in the Constitution.

Employer: There are no two opinions that gheraos involve physical coercion, rather than economic pressure. So far as I can recollect the Supreme Court had also ruled in a case that the gheraos should be "impermissible". Gheraos only help the workers to get their demands fulfilled under duress. While they want rights in the

name of democracy, they act like dictators. The means must justify the ends as the Father of the Nation told his countrymen.

Government: I strongly feel that gheraos affect, in the long run, the national interests. I would even suggest that not only should a blanket ban be imposed on gheraos but those who indulge in it should be severely and summarily punished. In fact, there is no case for incorporating in the Constitution the right to strike/lockout. In a developing country like India, cessation of work is criminal. India is essentially a mixed economy in which the public sector and the private sector complement each other's activities. The two sectors require industrial peace for a leap forward. The right to strike, if inscribed into the Constitution, as the trade unions demand, would spell the ruin of the economy.

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protection adopted by the governments at the local levels. Reservation implies a premium on inefficiency and dishonesty. Merit is at a discount. All scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and backward class students are not fit for university education. But, alas! there is no bar to their entry whatever their merit.

Conclusion

Two points emerge prominently from the discussion. One, preferential treatment to the minority communities or groups in the form of reservation of vacancies in government services and educational institutions should not be considered as an end but only a means. Two, the reservation policies should be time-bound and all reservations should cease after the expiry of the period, not exceeding a decade.

ECONOMIC SCENE

- New Rupee-Rouble Rate
- Indian Economy Buoyant ?
- Bleak Export Prospects

New Rupee-Rouble Rate

Q. According to a recent Indo-Soviet agreement the new rupee-rouble parity will now be Rs. 10 : 1. Discuss its pros and cons.

Ans. The Indo-Soviet protocol, signed on November 25, 1978, has set at rest the six-year old dispute between the two nations. According to this agreement, the new exchange of rouble effective from the said date will be Rs. 10 as against Rs. 11.76 before that date and Rs. 8.78 as from 1971 and Rs. 8.33 as from 1966. Compared with the earlier rates of mid-sixties and mid-seventies, the rupee has been devalued in terms of rouble, but up-valued compared to the latest prevailing rate.

Main Features

The main features of the new agreement are:

(1) The new exchange rate of Rs. 10 to a rouble will apply to all existing and future credit agreements but shall not apply to non-commercial transactions such as maintenance expenses of the Embassy of India and other Indian organisations located in U.S.S.R.

(2) The existing contracts have been divided into three categories (a) contracts whose supplies have been received and paid off; (b) contracts whose supplies have been received but not paid off as yet; and (c) contracts whose supplies have not been received. In the case of

contracts falling under category (b), the U.S.S.R. has agreed to offer an interest-free 45-year deferred payment facility. This, in effect, means a grant element of about 85 per cent as it covers about two-thirds of the additional liabilities arising from the application of the new exchange rate to future repayments of existing Soviet credits.

(3) Where payments have been made to offset credits, the new rate will not apply except where a commitment to this effect has been made during the negotiations (e.g. in contracts concluded on or after January 1, 1976).

(4) The new exchange rate is not absolutely rigid and inflexible. It permits adjustment if the rupee-value in terms of a specified basket of currencies (dollar, pound sterling, yen and Mark) increases or decreases by 3 per cent.

Impact

(i) *Debts*: The new parity rate would place a substantial burden on India—estimated at several hundred crore even though no precise figure is available. (ii) *Trade*: As in the past, the contracts will be designated in a third currency, say dollar, and will be paid in rupees. If the rupee value in terms of that “third” currency is stable, the incidence of the new rupee-rouble parity will not be very burdensome. Otherwise, not. (iii) *Certainty*: The element of prolonged uncertainty and risk is now over.

Conclusion

The official version is that the protocol is “equitable and represents a fair compromise between the two currencies.”

Indian Economy Buoyant ?

Q. Do you support the claim that the Indian economy is poised for a leap forward ?

Ans. The presentation of the Central government budget—the third in the series in the Janata party regime—is in the offing. The pre-budget appraisals often pose the question: Is the economy poised for a new buoyancy ? While it may be difficult to give a categorical answer to this question, two recent reports—one by the National Council of Applied Economic Research and the other by the Reserve Bank of India—point, albeit with cautious optimism, to the fact that there are favourable prospects of output expansion. The two elements that favour this are: one, relative price stability; two, improved foodgrains output. Besides, the foreign exchange reserves continue snow-balling. The accumulations are estimated at around Rs. 5,000 crore as in end-September, 1978. Fears are expressed in certain quarters that liberalised import policy would eat up these reserves unless it is deployed to attain self-sufficiency. The NCAER avers that this policy should be pursued as a short-term measure so that it does not affect the coun-

try's production capacity adversely. Inward remittances, which constitute the main source for the reserve build-up, may be short-lived. The fall in export earnings, estimated to be of the order of Rs. 1,000 crore this year, has added to our concern. It may be noted that the foreign exchange earnings are not likely to be depleted through foodgrain imports because the country has acquired a built-in capacity to meet the foodgrain requirements even if the country is visited by droughts or not-so-good monsoons for a few years.

The money supply continues to grow in 1978-79, though at a slower pace. In its report for 1977-78, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) describes the rate of growth of money supply as "very high"—18.4 per cent in 1977-78 as against 16.6 per cent in the previous year. The economy is charged with inflationary potential, particularly in respect of raw materials and machinery. The NCAER avers that "it may give rise to cost-push inflation in the near future, unless effective measures are taken to check this tendency".

The tempo of investment is on a low key despite the continuous rise in money supply. The savings in the household sector have declined despite the rise in money income. This is explained by the fact that the fall in wholesale price index has not percolated to the retail price index. The householder continues to groan under high prices of consumption goods. The reduction in wholesale prices will have to be more pronounced, widespread and sustained for the benefit to be felt fully at the consumer level.

The problem of industrial sickness is growing in dimension and seriousness. This is indicative of imbalances in the industrial sector. The RBI report under-scores the disappointing industrial growth

during 1977-78. The NCAER study while noting this decline from 10.4 per cent in 1976-77 to 3.9 per cent in 1977-78 maintains that a growth rate of 7 per cent in the early months of the current financial year (1978-79) has been attained. (It is now reported to be higher at 9.2 per cent). The Union minister for industries is hopeful of excelling this growth performance.

It may be noted in conclusion that the overall growth rate may be around 3 per cent which is lower than 4.7 per cent targeted rate and 6 per cent reached during the year ended June, 1978.

Bleak Export Prospects

Q. "The widening foreign trade gap may rise to a staggering figure of Rs. 1,000 crore in 1978-79" (H.M. Patel). Account for the bleak export prospects and state the corrective measures taken by the government.

Ans. According to the available data, the export earnings have a negative rate of growth during the current financial year. During the first half of the year (April-September), the exports aggregated to Rs. 2,497 crore which is lower by as much as Rs. 400 crore on a *pro rata* basis as compared with the target of Rs. 5,800 crore for 1978-79. During the corresponding period last year (1977-78) India had a surplus of Rs. 109 crore. Exports this year are likely to fall short of the target by 15 per cent.

Causes: What factors have contributed to this "very disappointing" state of affairs? The decline in exports from India is due to international and domestic reasons.

(a) **International causes:** (i) **Recession:** The inflationary conditions prevailing in the developed countries have led to

stagflation and demand recession. As a result, the foreign markets have been adversely affected. (ii) **Protectionism:** To safeguard against unemployment following stagflation and decline in output through competition, the developed countries have raised barriers against imports from the developing countries, including India. (iii) **Dollar depreciation:** Since export earnings are generally designated in dollar, the most widely-accepted international currency, the fall in the rupee-value of dollar has caused considerable erosion of export realisation in rupee terms. (iv) **Unit value of exports:** The unit value of some of our exports like tea and coffee has fallen and resulted in lower foreign exchange earnings.

(b) **Domestic:** (1) **Smaller surpluses:** Reduction in exportable surpluses caused by the increase in demand as in the case of iron and steel has been responsible for smaller surpluses. (2) **Decline in production:** Power shortage, labour unrest (such as due to port and dock workers' strike), unavailability or inadequacy of raw material, particularly of the imported variety, have led to a fall in production. (3) **Economic policies:** The lacklustre export performance is attributable to the deliberate policy of the government to restrict/control of certain commodities (e.g. onions and vegetables) to enable sufficient domestic availability for consumption at reasonable prices and thus to reduce social cost for exports. (4) **Higher imports:** The yawning export-import gap is also accounted for by the rising import bill *vis-a-vis* the declining export earnings. The import bill is estimated to have gone up by 25 per cent in April-September, 1978—Rs. 3,085 crore as against Rs. 2,476 crore during the corresponding period last year. The spurt in imports

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The Dream of World Government Again !

The establishment of world Government and of a world Parliament has for centuries been mankind's fondly-cherished dream, and, like most other visions of this kind, has remained elusive. Since World War II, in particular, several plans have been put forward, discussed and then put on the shelf for lack of active backing because of the almost insurmountable hurdles in achieving such a goal, however desirable it may be from the standpoint of world peace and human welfare. After the establishment of the United Nations the sense of world community has gradually developed, despite the occasional conflicts, tensions and all the other factors that tend to queer the pitch for universal peace, fraternity and a pooling of resources for the general good of the countless millions who inhabit the five continents of the globe. The urgency of establishing such a world Government has been repeatedly felt in view of the numerous ills of mankind for which there seems to be no other solution but a common administration and a common legislature. But the imponderables have been far too many, some of them very formidable.

India's Parliament made history on December 25, 1978, when it made a positive move towards the attainment of this objective by holding a prolonged discussion on a private Bill sponsored by Mr H.V. Kamath. The Bill, which the Lok Sabha unanimously agreed to circulate or eliciting public opinion, seeks to amend the constitution of

India so as to provide for "the convening of a world Constituent Assembly as a preparatory step towards the establishment of a Parliament of man and a federation of the world". The mover of the Bill, Mr Kamath, explained that his measure sought to add an additional sub-clause to Article 51 of the Constitution requiring the Union of India to "collaborate with other nations for the early formation of a World Constituent Assembly to draft the Constitution for a world federal Government."

At first sight it may seem rather audacious that India should try to incorporate a plan for a world Parliament and Government in its own Constitution. But the far-sighted and clear-headed founding fathers of the Constitution had already made a provision for such schemes. Article 51, which the Bill seeks to amend, says that "the State shall endeavour to promote international peace and security, maintain just and honourable relations between nations, foster respect for international law and treaty obligations in the dealings of organised peoples with one another and encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration." Hardly any other Constitution of a democratic country takes such a broad stand and envisages such vast possibilities of international co-operation. The conference of the World Constitution and Parliament Association held at Colombo from December 29, 1978, to January 7, 1979, promoted this goal and outlined similar steps to pave

the way for setting up a world Government. It passed certain resolutions appealing to the various Governments not to take an adamant stand on the question of sovereignty. In any case, it has been pointed out that the traditional prejudices against shedding sovereignty or diluting it are fading out in several parts of the world. The functioning of the United Nations and all its agencies does mark a partial surrender of authority and acceptance of an outside agency to achieve certain ends. So the establishment of a world Government and Parliament could be taken as a mere extension of the theme of international co-operation underlying the establishment of a host of U.N. agencies. In the context of the growing international co-operation, the old concepts of absolute and unadulterated sovereignty seem to have become outdated.

The basic aims of the movement, of course, are to maintain peace, avoid wars and simultaneously to ensure speedy economic development which would be possible at less cost when there is no duplication of the elaborate paraphernalia which each country currently sets up for itself. The world is shrinking fast as a result of the modern means of communication; hence the old argument that vast distances separate the various countries and that, therefore, it would be almost impossible to ensure good administration or to hold effective sessions of a world Parliament anywhere. After all, as many as 151 member-countries of the U.N. assem-

ble for weeks together twice a year for prolonged sessions of the U.N. General Assembly, and also for the Security Council and several other U.N. agencies. Frequent meetings are also held at Paris (UNESCO headquarters) at Geneva (ILO headquarters) and Vienna for talks on disarmament *e t c.* So it should not be difficult for representatives of various countries to attend sessions of a world Parliament. Distances now do not count at all. Moreover, the rapid progress of science and technology has facilitated frequent contacts and consultations. The stage, therefore, seems set for the closest possible co-operation.

The origins of this concept of a world Government and a super State are also interesting. Clark and Sohn, two enterprising writers with a sound vision, put forth the project many years ago. They argued that world peace could be ensured only through world laws made and enforced by a world State. They envisaged the gradual conversion of the United Nations into a super State with the sole function of preventing war; such a super State should not interfere in the internal social and economic affairs of any country, not even in their immigration policies which have proved to be a sensitive issue, nor in question affecting international trade (restrictions, embargoes and the policy of protectionism have now become hot and controversial issues). To begin with, therefore, the two reformers thought, the other problems should not be allowed to hamper the development and acceptance of this concept.

The maintenance of peace, according to Clark and Sohn, depended upon: (a) complete and universal disarmament, the various States keeping only strictly limited and lightly armed police for maintaining internal order, though even these police

forces would be under the constant supervision of the world State; (b) an inspection service maintained by the world State to oversee disarmament and also an agency to ensure that nuclear energy is not misused and utilised only for peaceful purposes, not for any military use; (c) the establishment of a world police force by the global State to uphold world law against international violence—the force should be adequate to punish the offenders; (d) World legislature, executive and judiciary, the legislature, to be elected unanimously by the people, to enact legislation, issue regulations concerning disarmament and maintenance of peace and to keep a watchful eye on the other organs for maintaining peace; (e) there would also be a World Development Authority the essential function of which would be to reduce the vast disparities in the economic position of the various regions of the world. It is well known that islands of prosperity in a vast ocean of stark poverty and various stages of development cause unrest and endanger peace and world stability; (f) lastly, there would be a world revenue system which is necessary to provide ample funds required for the maintenance of the various world agencies envisaged in provisions (a) to (e) above.

Earl Bertrand Russell, the famous British Philosopher, and also Professor Arnold Toynbee, the great historian, were among the strong advocates of the idealistic concept of a world Government. Earl Russell felt that only by surrendering a part of their sovereignty could the States ensure permanent peace. He regarded a world State as the only long-term alternative to the extinction of the human race.

While the goal of a world Government is eminently desirable as a panacea for many of the world's ills, there are several practical difficulties in the attain-

ment of this goal which virtually rule out the establishment of such a super body.

First, the growing consciousness of autonomy, self-reliance and independence, which tends to thwart all proposals for integration and acceptance of an outside authority as supreme and exercising the overriding authority.

Secondly, none of the major Powers is interested in forming a world Government in which they would lose their predominance and in which they would be subject to majority rule (the majority now is of the small and medium countries). In fact the U.S.A. is getting allergic even to the U.N. General Assembly which is dominated by the Third World—mostly coloured people. The white nations would be reduced to a minority and would have little voice.

Thirdly, the affluent and industrialised nations are in no mood to share their wealth and resources with the other countries, and as the North-South dialogue in Paris and the various sessions of UNCTAD have shown, they object to all proposals which would mean their surrendering a part of their wealth or a reduction in their standard of living. Altruism is now a lost virtue.

Fourthly, the mutual misunderstandings and the inability of the Big Powers themselves to settle their differences on such issues as nuclear and strategic armaments shows that the prospects of a complete understanding on a world State are very dim.

Fifthly, there are the major racial and ethnic differences which are hard to reconcile. The requisite mental and psychological transformation is unlikely to come about for many decades, possibly centuries.

Nuclear Safeguards—Trap for India?

The Government of India's latest decision to accept the U.S. proposal to join experts' panel to watch nuclear plants in all countries has been described as "a timely move" by some and as a "surrender to American pressure and a trap" by others. The step has far-reaching implications which need to be examined closely, and the two aspects of the matter call for a thorough discussion. The proposition is: "The international panel of scientists for nuclear inspection is a trap".

Mr A: Towards the close of 1978, Mr Desai, India's Prime Minister, announced that he had agreed to the U.S. proposal to establish a joint Indo-U.S. panel of scientists to keep a watch on nuclear plants and the secret sales of nuclear fuel and to perform other functions of a supervisory nature. This announcement has rightly been interpreted as a climbdown by India and a surrender to U.S. pressure. All these months Mr Desai had stood firm on the question of accepting U.S. conditions for continuing the supply of nuclear fuel for the prestigious Tarapur atomic power plant near Bombay. But now, apparently as a result of prolonged discussions with U.S. officials, he has agreed to the proposal for a joint panel. During his visit to Washington some months ago Mr Desai explained India's nuclear policy and strongly criticised the USA's repudiation of the agreement by which that country had agreed to supply nuclear fuel for Tarapur. The U.S. Congress recently decided to cut off further supplies of nuclear fuel (enriched uranium) until India accepted the full scope safeguards which imply acceptance of conditions binding this country, among other things, not to conduct nuclear experiments of any kind. The U.S.A. has clearly gone back on its past commitments, unmindful of the adverse reactions in India and

the loss of its own credibility. The vital question is: Of what use are solemn agreements if one of the signatories can decide unilaterally to flout its terms and go back on its assurances. A new U.S. Congress law requires acceptance of full scope safeguards by any country which has a nuclear reactor set up with American collaboration. But it is obviously unfair to foist a new law on a country like India which set up the Tarapur reactor many years ago and the fuel for which is assured by a regular treaty. In all fairness, no country should repudiate a treaty to which it is a party. Since India has consistently refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty despite U.S. and Soviet pressures or to accept the new full scope safeguards, the decision to join scientists' panel certainly marks a climbdown which has baffled many people. The Government of India has tried to explain that there is no "surrender" or reversal of national policy, but the explanation is totally unconvincing. So I strongly feel that the country should keep aloof from such traps, however alluring the prospects of getting nuclear fuel from the USA by such acceptance.

Mr B: My friend, Mr A, has tried to present the country's stand on the nuclear issue in a dark light. While it is true that India has agreed to the U.S.

proposal to constitute a joint panel of scientists, Mr Desai made it clear (in a statement in the Rajya Sabha on November 30, 1978) that India would not accept nuclear safeguards which were not applicable to other nuclear powers in the world. He made it clear, however, that there should be no objection to exploring avenues for finding universally acceptable safeguards. He also explained that the object of the proposed International Committee of Scientists was to examine the impact of safeguards on the peaceful development of nuclear energy in various countries and thus to ensure nuclear non-proliferation which would apply to all countries. The proposed committee or panel is not going to be an Indo-U.S. body but would comprise scientists from almost all parts of the world. India, he assured, had not given, and never intended to give, permission to any international committee to inspect Indian nuclear plants. As for his earlier statement that India would not conduct a nuclear experiment of any kind, Mr Desai has already clarified that if any nuclear experiment was for peaceful purposes and could be conducted without any dangerous fall-out, it was not barred. Besides, India has left the Big Powers in no doubt that if the U.S.A. violated the agreement regarding the supply of further consignments of nuclear fuel for

the Tarapur atomic plant, this country would make a determined drive to find out alternatives. The law passed by the U.S. Congress banning the supply of nuclear fuel to countries which had not signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was *ultra vires* of the Indo-U.S. agreement for the supply of nuclear fuel to India. The Government of India had requested the U.S. Administration on November 1, 1977, for the supply of 16·8 tonnes of enriched uranium, and on September 18, 1978, the Government had asked for 19·8 tonnes more of the fuel to ensure uninterrupted running of the Tarapur plant. These requests were still pending. Non-supply of the fuel would clearly constitute a violation of the Indo-U.S. accord. The "alternatives" Mr Desai has in mind have not been disclosed, but possibly nuclear fuel may be forthcoming from the Soviet Union or France. Besides, disclosure, at this stage, of alternative sources would surely invite impediments from various sources. So far the U.S.A. had not flouted the agreement, though the possibility of its doing so cannot be ruled out. In any case, there is no trap. Can any one imagine that a highly principled and conscientious leader and patriot like Mr Morarji Desai would sacrifice the nation's interests?

Mr C: I do not share Mr B's views, and I think he has gone out of his way to defend the Government of India's action without taking into account the pitfalls. What was the necessity of India joining a scientists' panel in which it would be in a small minority and subject to the views of the majority of the members who, presumably, would not accept India's plea and side with the Big Powers and other nuclear nations in asking this country to sign the N.P.T. or accept the full-scope safeguards. It has

also to be noted that the Soviet Union has decided not to press India or any other country to sign the treaty but would desire an agreement to prevent nuclear States from using nuclear weapons against non-nuclear States. The clarification of Soviet policy is bound to satisfy the Third World and is evidently designed to bind down the U.S.A. It is, however, obvious that any agreement on the question of safeguards is unlikely, owing to the basic discord on the issue and the mutual suspicions. The U.S. Government knows that India cannot do without nuclear fuel for Tarapur and that, through the joint panel, India's hands can be forced to a certain course of action. Despite all the talk of "alternative sources", the U.S. Administration feels, India will not be able to get the required quantity and quality of the nuclear fuel required. So I think it amounts to arms-twisting by the U.S.A. Moreover, what can India gain out of the scientists' panel? The External Affairs Minister, Mr A.B. Vajpayee, stated in the Lok Sabha on December 19 that India would not like any nuclear safeguards prescribed for China by the U.S.A. which were different from those applicable to India's Tarapur plant. If India's stand is clear, there is no point in obliging the U.S.A. by joining the experts panel.

Mr D: I am afraid the assumption by my friend, Mr C, that India cannot do without U.S. nuclear fuel if it is to run the Tarapur plant is unfounded, and so also the belief that the scientists' panel is a trap, etc. In this connection I would like to quote the view of no less a person than Dr H.N. Sethna, the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, who said at Madras on December 19, 1978, that suspension of the supply of U.S. enriched uranium will not retard the nuclear power development programme of the

country. Two contracted supplies of U.S. uranium were outstanding; one of them should have reached India last October but did not. He assured the people that "we will be able to run Tarapur on our own and we are not going to look to any one for it." Again, Dr Sethna (surely the biggest authority on the subject of atomic energy in the country) stated that the new scientists' panel would not be allowed to interfere with the country's research and development programmes. All decisions of the panel, Mr Desai has said, will not be binding on India. India has decided to allow inspection only on an absolutely non-discriminatory basis for all nuclear activities for all countries. If it is going to be a discriminatory affair, there was no question of India accepting it. It has also to be noted that the full-scope safeguards have to be made applicable to all countries. They cannot be enforced only against the "have-nots". Gross discrimination is evident from the U.S. silence over the French accord for nuclear power plants in China. Nor is the talk of secret understandings with the U.S.A. well founded. Mr Desai emphatically denied, on December 15, that he had reached any secret understanding with President Carter when the latter visited India early in January. He asserted that he would not deserve to be an Indian if he had reached any such understanding. Since it is clear that if there is an inspection, it would be for all, there is no trap and no surrender; only a safeguarding of India's interests in atomic power.

Haste

Whoever is in a hurry, shows that the thing he is about is too big for him.

—LORD CHESTERFIELD

I 'm OK You 're OK

—A New Approach to Personality—

A personality is a full congress of orators and pressure-groups, of children, demagogues, Communists, isolationists, war-mongers, mug wumps, grafters, long-rollers, lobbyists, Caesars and Christs, Machiavellis and Judasis, Tories and Prometheon revolutionists.

—H.A. MURRAY

Experimental psychologists have developed many theories in their attempt to explain the many-faceted human personality. Dr Eric Berne, famous American psychiatrist and author of "Games People Play", has developed a new theory of personality called "Transactional Analysis". It is regarded as one of the most promising break-throughs in psychiatry. According to Dr Thomas A. Harris, M.D., "It has given a new answer to people who want to change rather than to adjust, to people who want transformation rather than conformation." He adds, "It is realistic in that it confronts the patient with the fact that he is responsible for what happens in the future no matter what has happened in the past. Moreover it is enabling persons to change, to establish self-control and self-direction and to discover the reality of freedom of choice."

Personality development through change

Berne's system of "Transactional Analysis", usually known as T.A., aims at personality development through change, the indubitable and scientific law of nature. Elton Trueblue suggests that causes for human behaviour lie not only in the past but in man's ability to contemplate the future or estimate probabilities. He points out "Man is a creature whose present is constantly being dominated by reference to the non-existent, but nevertheless, potent future."

J. Ortega Y. Gasset defines man as "a being which consists not so much in *what is*, as in *what is going to be*". It has been said that blaming faults on your nature does change the nature of your faults. Thus "I am like that", *does not* help. I can be different, *does*.

The basic unit of T.A.

In T.A., the basic unit of social intercourse is called a transaction. It consists of a transactional stimulus and a response. A transaction takes place when we recognise the existence of another person. By analysing transactions we are able to understand the way individuals relate to one another: "At a deeper level we may discover not only why people say the things they do, but also why they say things in their own way." By greater understanding of our own and other persons' behaviour through the analysis of the ways people use one another we can gain a greater awareness of our own needs and wants as also of those frustrations and fears which at times inhibit us in getting what we want.

Three Ego States

Man has a multiple nature. The three parts of the multiple human nature according to the T.A. Model are Child, Adult, Parent. They represent triple ego states. Each ego state is a system of feelings, thoughts and experiences that are related to patterns of behaviour one has

learned and developed in the course of maturation or development. At any one moment in time every one of us is operating out of one such ego states, or state of being. Persons can exist in two states at one and the same time.

The Child

The *child ego state* covers the period from birth to the age of five years. It represents "The felt concept of life". It is the reproduction of what the child sees, hears, feels and understands. In his *child ego state* a person operates essentially on feeling level—happy, sad, petulant, angry, hurtful, laughing, crying etc. One is also in his *child ego state* when one is being creative, spontaneous, enthusiastic, destructive or intuitive. "Since our childhood experiences were unique to ourselves, we will each behave differently from one another in the same ego state. Sometimes an individual may conform, at other times rebel, just as he did when he was a child".

The Adult

The *Adult ego state* represents "the thought concept of life." As a person grows up he develops the capacity to absorb, assimilate and organize information from his environment. He learns to think, to solve problems, to estimate probabilities, to analyse, to gather and process data. He finds out what is different about life from the taught concept of life in his

parent and the felt concept of life in his child. Engaged in any of these varied activities he is in his *Adult ego state*.

The Parent

The *parent ego state* represents "the taught concept" of life. It is a huge collection of recordings in the brain of unquestioned or imposed external events perceived by a person in his early years, a period roughly designated as the first five years of life. In his *parent ego state* an individual feels and acts as his real parents or parent figures did. He makes judgments, offers instant opinions, prejudices and evaluations as to what is 'good' or 'bad', 'right' or 'wrong'. This part of the *parent ego state* is termed the critical parent. An individual may also have a kindly, protective, generous and supporting nature. This springs from the way his parents nurtured or helped him. He has as much of each kind of parent in him as his parents were capable of providing. Since the parents of each one of us were unique individuals, therefore, the experiences of each one of us and memories of them constitute for each one of us their own individualistic *parent ego state*.

In any of these three ego states a person can adopt quite different attitudes and behaviour patterns towards himself and in his transactions with others. For example from his *child ego state* a person may be spontaneous and loving or depressed, afraid or anxious. From his *parent ego state* he may be highly critical of some one or may be supportive or protective.

Four Life Positions

The TA Model involves four life positions a person may adopt in relation to himself and others. These positions are as follows:

(1) *I'm not OK, You're OK*: This is the universal position of early childhood.

Characterized by feelings of inferiority, the child feels at the mercy of others. It is the get-away-from-people position, adopted when depressed or withdrawn. The common way of dealing with this position is by playing psychological games, "a series of moves with a snare or gimmick". (Dr Eric Berne)

(2) *I'm not OK, You're not OK*: so let us smash both of us. This has been described as "The life-is-pretty-futile-for-all-of-us" position.

(3) *I'm OK, You're not OK*: This is the get-rid-of-people position, tending to push others away. Incurable criminals occupy this position. It is always 'their fault'. It's, "all them".

(4) *I'm OK, You're OK*: This is the get-along-with-people position. As Dr T.A. Harris observes in this position lies our hope: "I am a person. You are a person. I am important and you are important. If I devalue you I devalue myself." He adds, "The requirement of the position is that we are responsible to and for one another, and this responsibility is the ultimate claim imposed on all men alike". The first three positions are unconscious, having been made early in life. They are based on emotions or impressions without the benefit of external modifying data. The fourth position is a conscious and deliberate decision. The first three are based on feelings. The fourth is based on thought, faith and the wager of action. "The first three have to do with *why*. The fourth has to do with *why not*".

Art of good human relations

The T.A. system is essentially the art of human relations. From it we can learn how to handle ourselves as well as others in a purposeful, wholesome and friendly attitude so as to make our lives brighter and

happier, more meaningful and more worthwhile. By using T.A. we can substantially enhance our capacity to act spontaneously in a rational and trustworthy way with awareness of and consideration for the legitimate expectations of others. We can acquire from it the precious gift of *autonomy*, "the true freedom of the mature grown-up" and the hall-mark of a healthy and sound personality. As a psychologist remarks, "from the T.A. 'tool box' we learn that we can ease or solve our problems, we can think, we can get things done, and we can discover that the process can be an immensely rewarding adventure."

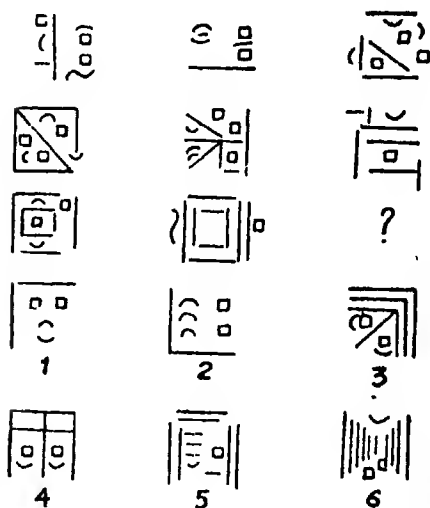
The value of the T.A. system lies in its power to change an individual into a better person, more resourceful in his work, more joyful in his play, more capable in winning life's game, more capable of standing on his feet. It enables him to discover and assemble a new individual self, to develop a new relating self and above all to be autonomous and responsible for everything he does, with freedom to think for himself, to choose and to create for himself the alternatives of choice. This *autonomy*, the freedom to function independently, is a priceless personality asset. "There are", says W. Somerset Maugham in his novel *Of Human Bondage* "two good things in life—freedom of thought and freedom of action." The T.A. system fosters this twin freedom.

Although the past cannot be wiped off, you can turn your face away from it and sculpture a future nearer to the heart's desire. Nobody forbids you the future. If you missed the jam yesterday, and are missing it today, you can have the jam tomorrow if you work according to the ideas and techniques of the T.A. system.

It works, if you work.

Intelligence **TEST**

1. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



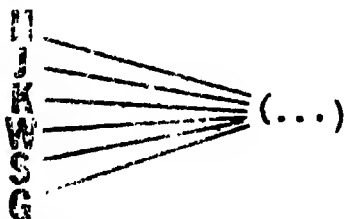
2. Pick out the word from the bottom line which goes with the three at top.

TAKE RULE RUN
tape gill cape court lap

3. Insert the word that completes the first word and starts the second.

COM (.....) ATE

4. Find the word which can be prefixed by all the following.



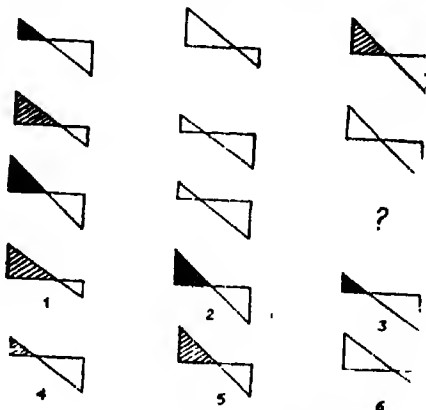
5. What are the plurals of the following.

- (a) Father-in-law
(b) Octopus

6. Re-write the following idiom on its proper order.

branch out the hold to olive

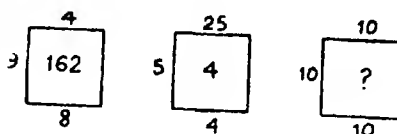
7. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



8. Insert the missing number.

4 10 27 77 —

9. Insert the missing number



10. Which two of the six sets are composed of the same numbers?

- (i) 3 7 9 4 5 2 (ii) 7 9 5 1 3 2
(iii) 2 6 5 3 4 7 (iv) 3 6 5 3 9 2
(v) 2 3 4 5 9 6 (vi) 2 7 3 5 4 9

11. What number should go into the blank space?

* 12 20 36 — 132

12. The statement below is followed by one or more conclusions. You are to assume that the statement is correct. For any conclusion you consider true and logical according to the statement, mark T. For any conclusion not necessarily true according to the statement, mark F.

"Potatoes are cheaper than tomatoes. I don't have enough money to buy $\frac{1}{2}$ kg of potatoes." Therefore:

(a) I haven't enough to buy $\frac{1}{4}$ kg of tomatoes.

(b) I may or may not have enough money to buy $\frac{1}{4}$ kg of tomatoes.

13. What is known as the heaviest liquid?

14. What could be the missing number in the code below?

ENQUIRE = 12
CONFOUND = 13
CARRIAGE = ?

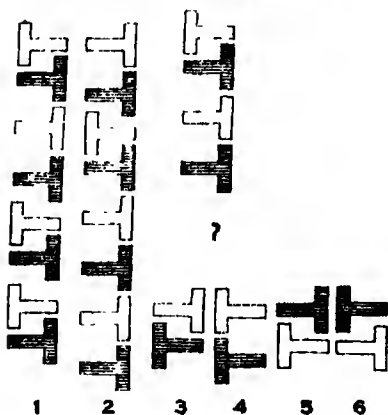
15. Write the number of the pair of words which are unlike the others in the following:

- (a) Endless and perpetual.
(b) Intermittent and recurrent.

(c) Fleeting and brief.

(d) Spasmodic and transient.

16. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



17. The names of the poets below have got jumbled up. Can you sort them out?

- (i) FLONGLELWO
- (ii) EASKT
- (iii) NBORWING
- (iv) ODRSWOTRHW
- (v) HSEKPSAEREA

18. Find the odd man out.
CRANK MESS HARLOT
FARTHER BABYLON

19. Insert the missing letters.

G — R M A — Y

20. Insert the missing numbers.

1 8 5 12 9 16 — —

21. Write the number of two of the following phrases which are similar in meaning:

(i) An unmannerly show of thanklessness.

(ii) An awkward show of pleasure.

(iii) An unpleasing exhibition of ingratitude.

(iv) A sorry spectacle of bad temper.

22. There are three words: Chair, Stool, Window-seat. Which of the following words stands for a thing similar to the things indicated by the above three words:

Bench; bed; mantelpiece.

23. Arrange the following in natural order, as second, minute, hour, day, week, month, year.

(a) Mansion, house, bungalow, room, storey.

(b) 321 B.C., 546 B.C., 35 B.C., 50 A.D., 321 A.D.

(c) Noon, 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 1 a.m., 1 p.m.

Answers and Explanations

1. 5. (There are as many curves as there are squares in each figure and the number of straight lines increase by one place progressing from the first onwards.)
2. Lap. (All these words can be prefixed by the word "OVER".)
3. PASSION
4. ILL
5. (a) Fathers-in-Law
(b) Octopuses
6. To hold out the olive branch.
7. 1. (There are three kinds of figures and three kinds of shadings.)
8. 226. (Treble the number and then subtract 2, 3, 4 and 5.)
9. 100. (Multiply the bottom number by the square of the number on the left and divide by the number on the top.)
10. (i) and (iv)
11. 68. (Double each number and subtract four.)
12. (a) F (b) T
13. Mercury.
14. 13. (Count the number of letters in each word and add 5.)
15. (a)
16. 1. (All shaded hammers turn to the right, white hammers alternate right and left.)
17. (i) LONGFELLOW (ii) KEATS (iii) BROWNING (iv) WORDSWORTH (v) SHAKESPEARE
18. HARLOT. (The number of letters in the alphabet between the first and last

letters of each word is twice that of the letters in the word between first and last plus one. Thus, in CRANK there are three letters between C and K. Twice 3 plus one is 7, and there are seven letters between C and K in the alphabet (DEFGHIJ). HARLOT is the odd man out.)

19. E and N. (GERMANY)
20. 13 and 20. (There are two alternating series each increasing by 4.)
21. (i) and (iii)
22. Bench.
23. (a) Room, Storey, House, Bungalow, Mansion.
(b) 546 BC; 321 BC; 35 BC; 50 AD; 321 AD.
(c) 1 a.m.; 11 a.m.; noon; 1 p.m.; 2 p.m.

Economic Scene

(Contd. from page 450)

is due to the liberalised import policy.

Correctives: Though managing the trade gap is not the issue, the government has indicated a new export strategy. This includes measures like the supply of raw materials at international prices to boost exports of selected items (e.g. plastic products, mixed fibres and certain chemicals) active involvement of concerned ministries and State governments in the country's export effort, greater emphasis on increasing and diversifying exports from the small-scale sector and incentives for the labour intensive products. Specific thrust will be made in the case of handicrafts, electronics, leather and leather manufactures, gems and jewellery, agricultural commodities like wheat, sugar, rice, marine products, pulses and oilseeds. Cash compensatory support will continue for another three years. The import-export policy may have a 3-year span to lend stability to export stream.

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Complete the following passage by inserting prepositions taken from the list given at the end. One preposition may be used more than once.

The new Ruritanian government got—this problem—any trouble at all. They announced t h e i r intention—closing the mines and selling all the stock—plutonium left—the country—the open market. T h e y called—all the small nations of the world to s t a n d—them. —a few hours the great powers had renewed diplomatic relations, and the new Ruritanian government was able to settle—the serious business—governing the country.

List

by, down, in, of, over, to, upon, with, within, without.

Q. II. Choose the appropriate alternative, indicating it by its number.

(a) The ship which sank in the Bay of Bengal was—with cotton.

1. burdened
2. laden
3. loaded

(b) Since it is getting dark we should—the lamp.

1. lit
2. burn
3. light

(c) It was an Italian scientist, Galileo, who—the telescope.

1. discovered
2. devised
3. invented

(d) My neighbour is in the habit of quarrelling—trifling matters.

1. on
2. with
3. over

(e) The street was full of people from one end to—.

1. the other
2. another
3. others

(f) He has been confined to bed—last Tuesday.

1. for
2. from
3. since

(g) He tried to wipe—the poor widow's tears.

1. away
2. off
3. out

(h) As I was strolling near the rail-track I found the—of a camel.

1. corps
2. corpse
3. carcass

(i) I understand that he has turned—a new leaf.

1. over
2. on
3. down

(j) He is not very efficient—I have recommended him.

1. and
2. therefore
3. but

Q. III. Each of the following sentences contains the word 'said'. Replace this word by one taken out of the list, keeping in mind the tone of the speaker.

1. "My bungalow has six big rooms", he said.

2. "Stop writing and hand over your answer books", said the teacher.

3. "That pen with which you are writing is mine", said the student.

4. "I am sorry I broke the window", said the boy.

5. "What a wonderful memory you have", said his friend.

6. "Let us go for a picnic today", said the monitor.

7. "I do not understand a word of what the teacher has taught", said the student to his neighbour.

8. "If you are not appearing, you must return my books", she said.

9. "But we haven't enough money for the journey", said the boys.

10. "You have no business to enter my room in my absence", he said.

List

- (a) claimed
- (b) protested
- (c) exclaimed
- (d) suggested
- (e) boasted

- (f) regretted
- (g) ordered
- (h) objected
- (i) insisted
- (j) whispered

Q. IV. In each of the following sentences, one word has been left incomplete. Complete the same, taking hint from its synonym given in brackets.

1. By their concerted efforts the police authorities have been able to e—ate crime in the area (*destroy*).

2. No professionals can p—ate in this tournament which is reserved for amateurs. (*join*)

3. All the efforts of the police to i—ate the witness have failed. (*question*)

4. The student's stubbornness only helped to i—ate the teacher. (*enrage*)

5. The new occupant has spent ten thousand rupees to r—ate the building. (*remodel*)

6. The fisherman tried to e—ate the size of his catch but we knew everything. (*overstate*)

7. The Prime Minister has decided to n—ate him Ambassador to France. (*select*)

8. Woollen clothes quite often i—ate the rash and cause pain. (*chafe*)

9. This monument has been erected to c—ate the war heroes of this district. (*remember*)

10. In view of heavy rains this time, we a—ate a lot of snow this winter. (*expect*)

Q. V. There is only one mistake in each one of the following sentences and that occurs at the numbered portion. Indicate the mistake by its number.

(a) I will (1) never forget kindness (2) you have shown to me.

(b) We are not to abuse (1) our hardly (2) won liberty.

(c) My boss is much (1) angry with (2) me these days.

(d) Misfortunes when faced (1) bravely and manly (2) become less troublesome.

(e) He is such a fool who (1) will talk any (2) nonsense.

(f) Scarcely had (1) my father left the room that (2) my younger brother began to dance.

(g) He started early because (1) he may (2) not get late.

(h) I want a (1) better and efficient (2) servant.

(i) It is easy distinguishing (1) this pen from (2) that.

(j) Every flower and every (1) leaf proclaim (2) the glory of God.

Q. VI. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end.

After knowledge, there is no one passion which has done so much good to mankind as the love of money. It is to the love of money that we owe all trade and commerce, in other words, the possession of every comfort and luxury which our own country is unable to supply. Trade and Commerce have made us familiar with productions of many lands, have awakened curiosity and have widened our ideas by bringing us in contact with nations of various manners, speech and thought. They have supplied an outlet for energies which would otherwise have been wasted, have accustomed men to habits of enterprise, forethought and calculation, have communicated to us many arts of great utility, and have put us in possession of some of the most valuable remedies with which we are acquainted either to live or to lessen pain. These things we owe to the love of money. If the theologians could succeed in their desire to destroy that love, all these things would cease and we should relapse into barbarism.

Choose the appropriate alternative:

1. The theme of the passage is:

- (a) human greed
- (b) the curse of money
- (c) love of money promotes civilization

2. The highest passion, according to the writer, is:

- (a) passion for knowledge
- (b) passion for money
- (c) love of trade

3. Which of the following statements are correct:

- (a) Trade has encouraged competition
- (b) Trade has promoted knowledge
- (c) Trade has improved human health
- (d) Trade has bred warfare
- (e) Trade has increased world-awareness.

4. "These things" we owe to the love of money. What are these things?

5. Give one word for "remedy to lessen pain".

- (a) soporific
- (b) palliative
- (c) narcotic

6. Explain the concluding sentence in the passage.

Answers

(Question I)

over, without, of, of, with, in, upon, by, within, down, to, of

(Question II)

- | | |
|-----|-------|
| (a) | (b) 3 |
| (c) | (d) 3 |
| (e) | (f) 3 |
| (g) | (h) 3 |
| (i) | (j) 3 |

(Question III)

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| 1. (e) | 2. (g) |
| 3. (a) | 4. (f) |
| 5. (c) | 6. (d) |
| 7. (j) | 8. (i) |
| 9. (h) | 10. (b) |

(Contd. on page 463)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

1. The energy that travels along a telephone line is
 - (a) sound energy
 - (b) radio energy
 - (c) mechanical energy
 - (d) electrical energy
2. Essential parts of a television receiver are
 - (a) an ionoscope
 - (b) a lens that forms a real image
 - (c) a cathode ray tube
 - (d) a photo-electric cell
3. Of the following, the best reason for using mercury as a liquid in a barometer is that
 - (a) it does not evaporate
 - (b) it does not wet the glass tube
 - (c) it is an opaque liquid
 - (d) it is a very dense liquid
4. A thermos bottle keeps a liquid hot because
 - (a) it has double walls
 - (b) it has silvered walls
 - (c) air between the double walls is removed
 - (d) heat losses by convection and radiation are largely prevented
5. The statement that is not true of radiation is that it
 - (a) travels with the speed of light
 - (b) always originates in the sun
 - (c) is absorbed by black surfaces
 - (d) is reflected by shiny surfaces
6. Which one of the following metals does not form an amalgam?
 - (a) zinc
 - (b) silver
 - (c) gold
 - (d) iron
7. The number of man-made or synthetic elements is about
 - (a) 14
 - (b) 106
 - (c) 92
 - (d) 100
8. The two most plentiful elements in the universe are
 - (a) oxygen and nitrogen
 - (b) water and silica
 - (c) hydrogen and helium
 - (d) oxygen and hydrogen
9. The metal that is most commonly extracted from sea water on an industrial scale is
 - (a) sodium
 - (b) calcium
 - (c) magnesium
 - (d) potassium
10. In industry, oxygen is prepared from
 - (a) liquid air
 - (b) water
 - (c) an oxide
 - (d) potassium chlorate
11. The oxygen of the atmosphere is due to
 - (a) volcanic eruptions
 - (b) living plants
 - (c) the exhalations of animals
 - (d) carbon dioxide present in the air
12. Hawks are valuable because they
 - (a) carry messages
 - (b) feed on chickens
 - (c) destroy mice
 - (d) are used for sport
13. Cover crops are planted in order to
 - (a) protect delicate seedlings
 - (b) insulate cold soil
 - (c) prevent soil erosion
 - (d) prevent wind breaks
14. The changes that occur in a plant community over a period of a few centuries are usually called
 - (a) evolution
 - (b) food chains
 - (c) succession
 - (d) balance of nature
15. An animal that is adapted to live on a very limited supply of water is the
 - (a) gull
 - (b) horned toad
 - (c) ant
 - (d) reindeer
16. Nerves from the eyes and ears are connected to the
 - (a) cerebellum
 - (b) cerebrum
 - (c) medulla
 - (d) spinal cord
17. To be detected by its odour, a substance must be in the form of
 - (a) a solid
 - (b) a liquid
 - (c) a gas
 - (d) dust
18. Habits are
 - (a) acts of will power
 - (b) in born reflexes
 - (c) autonomic activities
 - (d) acquired automatic acts
19. Habits and conditioned reflexes are alike in that both
 - (a) are inherited
 - (b) are learned responses
 - (c) appear only in dogs
 - (d) appear only in man
20. Although some dogs seem to act intelligently, their responses do not appear to involve
 - (a) reflexes
 - (b) instincts
 - (c) thought
 - (d) consciousness

21. The crust of the earth is made chiefly of

- (a) igneous rock
- (b) sedimentary rock
- (c) metamorphic rock
- (d) intruded rock

22. Of the following, the most plentiful mineral is

- (a) quartz
- (b) mica
- (c) feldspar
- (d) calcite

23. Tides are highest

- (a) in the spring
- (b) when the earth is nearest the moon
- (c) when the earth is farthest from the moon
- (d) when the sun, moon, and earth are in line

24. The stars that can be seen with the unaided eye number about

- (a) 400 to 500
- (b) 4,000 to 5,000
- (c) 40,000 to 50,000
- (d) 400,000 to 500,000

25. Erosion may be due to

- (a) wind
- (b) the sun's heat causing rocks to expand
- (c) the acid in water causing rocks to dissolve
- (d) the force of expansion as water freezes in rock crevices

**Increases (I), Decreases (D),
Remains the same (RS)**

26. An airplane is traveling at uniform velocity. As machine guns on the airplane discharge bullets in a forward direction, the forward velocity of the airplane—D.

27. As the centre of gravity of a body is raised, the stability of a body—D.

28. If the unbalanced force acting upon a body remains the same, while its mass is decreased, the acceleration of the body—I.

29. As a bucket of ice melts, and as long as some ice

is present, the temperature of ice-water mixture—I.

30. For a liquid which expands upon freezing, as pressure is increased, the freezing temperature—D.

Explain

31. You are looking diagonally down at a fish in a pond. To the fish, assuming it can see you, does your head appear higher or lower than it actually is.

32. Why do we see the sun before it actually rises above the horizon in the morning?

33. Why does the air shimmer over a hot stove?

34. Why is an eclipse of the moon visible to more people than an eclipse of the sun?

35. The common tungsten filament lamp and the fluorescent lamp used to light stores do not have the same number of the shorter blue and violet rays as sunlight does. What type of filter should be used with these lamps to give light similar to sunlight?

ASSOCIATION TEST

36. **Directions:** For each term in Group 'B', write the number preceding the name of the cell from Group 'A' most closely associated with that term.

Group 'A'

- 1. Cardiac muscle cell
- 2. Bone cell
- 3. Epithelial cell of trachea
- 4. Smooth muscle cell
- 5. White blood cell
- 6. Red blood cell
- 7. Fat cell

Group 'B'

- (a) Large Vacuole
- (b) Rh antigen
- (c) Striations
- (d) Pseudopods
- (e) Cilia

Fill in the blanks

37. (a) When a piece of rubber is rubbed with fur, the rubber

acquires a—charge, and the fur a—charge.

(b) The fact that a magnetic field surrounds a current-bearing wire was discovered by—.

(c) When the lead storage cell is being charged—energy is being converted into—energy.

(d) A fuse wire should have a—resistance and a—melting point.

(e) A lamp that emits ultraviolet light is the—.

(f) Steel is used for permanent magnets because of its high—.

(g) The angle between the true north and the direction of the compass is called the—.

(h) Two colours are complementary when a combination of them gives the sensation of

(i) The mass of an electron is approximately equal to that of—of a proton.

(j) An electric motor converts—energy into—energy.

Test your knowledge

38. The sun is a very hot sphere of gases with a surface temperature of 1. Its diameter is 2 times that of the earth, and its volume is 3 times that of the earth. The sun has been furnishing energy for millions of years. This energy comes from the 4 5 to form heavier elements. At the centre of the sun is the solar interior. Surrounding this are three layers, the 6, 7, and 8. There are storms on the surface of the sun causing 9. These apparently move across the surface of the sun indicating that the sun 10. Bright spots on the sun are caused by 11. One such type of bright spot connected with sunspots is the 12. The moon is barren land without either 13 or 14 to support life. The moon

light to the earth from the 14
The new moon appears when the
15 is between 16 and the
sun.

Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

39. (a) ESU, (b) EMF, (c)
MeV, (d) Halophyte, (e) Corona,
(f) Cosmotron.

Answers

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (c) |
| 3. (d) | 4. (d) |
| 5. (b) | 6. (d) |
| 7. (a) | 8. (c) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (c) |
| 13. (c) | 14. (c) |
| 15. (b) | 16. (b) |
| 17. (c) | 18. (d) |
| 19. (b) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (c) |
| 23. (d) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (a) | 26. D |
| 27. D | 28. I |
| 29. RS | 30. D |

31. *Higher.* The ray of light from the reaches of the eye of the fish after bending at the surface of water. If this ray is produced backward, it will show a higher position of the observer.

32. The atmosphere near the earth's surface is denser than in outer space. At the time of sunrise or sun-set, the rays from the sun traverse a much longer distance and bend towards the earth's surface. If these rays are produced back, they will indicate a much higher position of the sun at the time of sun rise or sun set.

33. Hot air, being less dense than cold air, has a lower index of refraction. Therefore, when light passes through the rising current of warm air into the cooler air, it is refracted. The unsteady motion of the warm air produces the shimmering effect.

34. The moon moves into the earth's shadow and the eclipse is visible to the whole hemisphere. The shadow from the moon falling on the earth is

very small and so will pass over only a very small part of the earth.

35. A blue filter should be used to hold back the more prominent longer waves and thus balance the light. Blue permits almost all of the shorter waves to be transmitted.

36. (a) 7
(b) 6
(c) 1
(d) 5
(e) 3

37. (a) negative, positive
(b) Oersted
(c) electrical, chemical
(d) high, low
(e) mercury vapour a r e
lamp
(f) retentivity
(g) declination
(h) white
(i) 1/1839
(j) electrical, mechanical

38. 1. 10,000°F
2. 110

3. 1,000,000
4. fusion
5. hydrogen
6. photosphere, chromo-
sphere, corona
7. sunspots
8. rotates
9. solar prominences
10. solar flares
11. air
12. water
13. reflects
14. sun
15. moon
16. earth

39. (a) Electro Static Units
(b) Electro Motive Force
(c) Milli Electron Volt

(d) P l a n t that tolerates very salty soil, a condition typical of shores of river estuaries.

(e) A white irregular halo surrounding the sun, which is visible during a total eclipse.

(f) A *proton accelerator* containing a very large ring-shaped electromagnet.

Objective-Type Tests—English

(Contd. from page 460)

(Question IV)

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. eradicate | 2. participate |
| 3. interrogate | 4. infuriate |
| 5. renovate | 6. exaggerate |
| 7. nominate | 8. irritate |
| 9. commemorate | |
| 10. anticipate | |

(Question V)

- (a) 2 (the kindness)
(b) 2 (hard)
(c) 1 (very)
(d) 2 (manfully)
(e) 1 (as)
(f) 2 (when)
(g) 1 (so that)
(h) 2 (more efficient)
(i) 1 (to distinguish)
(j) 2 (proclaims)

(Question VI)

1. (c) 2. (a)

3. (b), (c) and (e)

4. Trade has provided comforts, increased knowledge by encouraging travel, released hidden energies, promoted enterprise and relieved human suffering.

5. (b)

6. If the theologians succeed in their desire to destroy that love, all these things would cease, and we should relapse into barbarism.

Religious men condemn love of money and if they ever succeed in drawing people away from this love, the benefits mentioned in (4) will disappear and man will again become uncivilized.



Gandhiji attached the greatest importance to work, especially what he called "bread labour". He consistently held that everyone, saint or sinner, must earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. According to him, work is the panacea for all the maladies and miseries which beset mankind. Without work, a balanced development of the body and the mind is impossible of achievement.

To do nothing is to be nothing. Idleness is an unmitigated curse. It is always "going to do" something but ends up with nothing done. It consumes a man faster than labour may weary him. It is the mother of poverty, doom and degradation. It robs men of virtue and nobility and demoralizes and weakens whole nations.

In Gandhiji's opinion, it was idleness of distaste for work, rather than an over-population which condemned India's millions to live in a state of semi-starvation. At one place he says, "Our compulsory or voluntary idleness is to go. If it does not go, no panacea will be of any avail, and semi-starvation will remain the eternal problem that it is. He who eats two grains must produce four. Unless this law is accepted as universal, no amount of reduction in population will solve the problem. If the law is accepted and observed, we have room

The Gospel of Work

There can never be too much emphasis placed on work. I am simply repeating the gospel taught by the Gita where the Lord says: "If I did not remain ever at work sleeplessly, I should set a wrong example to mankind".

—Mahatma Gandhi

enough for millions more to come."

According to the Bible "If any would not work, neither should he eat." Work is thus a personal as well as a social obligation. Unless we do our share of work, we cannot hope to be accepted as useful members of society. National wealth is the sum-total of individual effort. A country where the population is given to indolence and sloth is bound to suffer from poverty and want.

Work is a necessity from the point of view of our physical and moral health also. It gives us self-respect and dignity. It is work alone which imparts flavour to life. The real joy of life is known only to simple folk, who love their work. Being forced to work and forced to do your best produces in you the qualities of temperance, self-control, diligence, strength of will, cheerfulness, contentment and a hundred other virtues which the idle will never know. Work is the sustenance of noble minds and the true source of human welfare. In all ages and in all climates, society depends on the labours of its members for the welfare of the maximum number. Work is real worship and intelligent labour is the highest form of prayer.

The surest way to attain happiness in life is again work. The glow of satisfaction which we feel after "something attempted; something achieved" can be purchased neither with

money nor with any other means except hard labour. Real happiness is the lot of those who work neither for money nor for fame but for the sheer joy of working.

In his personal life as well as in his writings, Gandhiji ceaselessly emphasised that it was the duty of everyone to work and produce with his own hands. This was the philosophy behind the cult of the spinning wheel which he propagated. He saw that unless we cultivated the habit of work, we could not hope to regain our self-respect as a nation or achieve self-sufficiency which is a pre-condition for real freedom.

"Know thyself, help man; protect the Right, do without fear or weakness or faltering thy work of battle in the world. Thou art the eternal and imperishable Spirit, thy soul is here on its upward path to immortality; life and death are nothing, sorrow and wounds and suffering are nothing, for these things have to be conquered and overcome. Look not at thy own pleasure and gain and profit, but above and around, above at the shining summits to which thou climbest, around at the world of battle and trial in which good and evil, progress and retrogression are locked in stern conflict."

LORD KRISHNA TO ARJUNA
Quoted from "Essays on Gita"
by Sri Aurobindo

Argumentative Questions **ON** **CURRENT PROBLEMS**

● Are Heavy Taxes Necessary ?

Nationalisation of Key Industries

● Science for the Masses ?

All-pervasive Politics

Are Heavy Taxes Necessary?

Q. "Heavy and comprehensive taxation is indispensable for every Government, especially in a developing country." Give arguments *For and Against* this view.

Ans. For years the Government of India has been levying heavy and extensive taxes, covering almost all types of commodities and services, on the plea that more funds are required to meet the ever-growing expenditure on the administration and on the various development projects. Every Budget contains more taxation proposals even while the already existing levies continue. Where will this vicious circle lead to? Taxing, it is said, is easy business. Anyone can devise new taxes and add to the old ones, but is it wise to do so and thus tax people's patience and toleration to the utmost limit? Taxing the people down to the last shirt is surely an invitation to trouble, for oppressed people will be seething with resentment, especially when there is waste, inefficiency and worse in the administration. Again, it is said that taxes are the price we pay for civilised society. But is it not possible for society to so arrange things that the masses are spared the agony of more and more taxation? Heavy taxes also cause evasion. Heavy income-tax, it is believed, has made people liars. Taxes are admittedly the sinews of the

State; without money from such sources no Government can run, but it is a moot point whether heavy taxes must be levied every year.

Arguments For

1. Unless there are heavy and comprehensive taxes, where will all the resources required by the Government to execute development projects come from? All the five-year plans, formulated with such labour and attention to detail, require massive amounts of money without which the ambitious schemes for more industry, more agriculture, more water, more power and more housing and other amenities would become impossible. On the one hand the people demand speedy economic development and a better life and more amenities, and, on the other, many of them resent proposals for taxes. These are contradictory attitudes. Taxes, it has been rightly said, are the price we have to pay for all-round progress; else, there would be stagnation.

2. Mobilisation of resources for developmental purposes is a worldwide phenomenon and is inevitable in order to ensure a better deal for the common man. If the aims are genuine and universally accepted, why not the means to achieve them? The Government in a democracy as well as in a dictatorship is expected to strive constantly for the common good and to work

for social welfare. This requires huge funds which can only come through taxes or other imports, direct and indirect.

3. Some people argue that the Government can take huge loans, or print more currency notes and mint more money, but they forget that loans and borrowing money from any source, national or foreign, imposes a burden on the community in the shape of interest and other charges. All loans have to be repaid, and the massive sums required for interest and repayments have also to be collected from the people in the long run. Currency note printing imposes a heavy, though invisible, burden. More currency in circulation leads to more inflation, higher prices, a fall in the value of the rupee and to various other problems.

4. By paying taxes now, even if heavy ones, the people ensure a brighter tomorrow. India has the dimensions of a continent. Its problems are massive. About 46 per cent of the population lives in poverty; countless others just manage to pull through; only a small percentage of the people are well off. By making them pay through the nose the Government seeks to ensure economic justice, but even the masses have to contribute their mite, even though direct and indirect taxes may pinch them. A tax that does not pinch anyone has yet to be devised in the world.

Arguments Against the View

1. If the Government had been efficient and had assured that best possible use of the taxpayers' money, the resentment against taxes would have been much less. But there is so much waste in the administration and so much corruption and misappropriation of funds at various levels that the people feel that the taxes they pay are being largely wasted, misappropriated, misutilised and virtually going down the drain. Unless the Government can put its house in order and prevent waste, it has no moral right to levy more and more taxation in the name of progress and economic development.

2. The system of taxation is itself faulty, lopsided, ill-conceived, and hence unfair. Why is it that big landlords who have benefited the most from five-year plans and other power and irrigation projects contribute only a small percentage of the total State revenues? Why is it that most of the taxes are levied on urban people, businessmen and industrialists? Why should such gross discrimination be exercised in devising taxes? The political motivation causes considerable resentment and signifies a surrender to the farmers' lobby. All the concessions to farmers are eaten up mostly by the richer and more affluent section of agriculturists; the petty peasant benefits very little.

3. The Government can augment its treasury by checking tax evasion, but the tragedy is that the Governmental machinery is so inefficient, so corrupt and so lethargic that a lot of people manage to evade taxes. The consequent loss to the exchequer has to be made up by levying more and more taxes. Consequently, the honest taxpayer has to pay for the Government's lapses in tax collection and for the wily manoeuvres of the tax

evader. The evader continues to make more money, while the honest taxpayer is fleeced more and more. This is obviously unjust, unfair and even cruel.

4. The disenchantment of the people grows from year to year because they have also to pay for the continuing losses incurred by the public sector enterprises—the white elephants of the economy. Why are public sector establishments being allowed to run at a loss when similar private sector enterprises make profits and run economically? The Government should check the huge waste of funds in the public sector.

5. The Government's top heavy administration is another wasteful aspect. The Government should economise in its expenditure and not allow extravagance. Commissions of enquiry, the whole lot of them, are also a waste of public money, judging from the near-total absence of positive results and the political vendetta.

Nationalisation of Key Industries

Q. "India's key industries should be nationalised without further delay." Give arguments For and Against this view expressed by Mr George Fernandes, the Union Minister for Industry.

Ans. Several times during the past few weeks Mr George Fernandes, the Union Minister for Industry, has declared that the Government of India favours nationalisation of key industries, especially those where the investment has to be on a large scale and where the private sector is not able to ensure technological innovations, that is, provide the necessary technology. There have been cases where old and obsolete methods of manufacture are still being followed, worn-out machinery is in use and the inputs are totally inadequate and yet, because of

the personal or family interests involved, the plants continue to be owned and operated by private individuals or firms. Some of these industries, such as the automobile industry, need urgent restructuring, but the private firms owning them have not done the needful, with the result that these establishments continue to be drags on the national economy. In these industries scarce resources are being wasted. At the same time there is the other side of the question. The public sector enterprises are by no means models of efficiency, good management and the most fruitful utilisation of resources. All talk of taking over more basic industries seems pointless in such a dismal context.

Arguments For Nationalisation

1. Nationalisation is fully justified in most cases of key industries because there is no move by the private industrialists to ensure the best possible use of both indigenous resources and the foreign exchange sanctioned for them. The industrialists are interested only in making profits, and they concentrate on the short-term interests without bearing the long-term interests of the country in mind.

2. The old concept that under perfect competition each industry puts in its best and promotes full employment with fair rewards to all sections of the employees and the general community has proved to be unwarranted, whatever the theoretical aspect may be. The policy of *laissez faire* ruined private industries under British rule, and is apparently out of tune with the Socialistic winds that are blowing all over the world. The profits of successful concerns are at present being pocketed by certain individuals and families—the Birlas, the Mafatlals, the Tatas, the Modis and others.

3. The marked success of Socialist systems of Government in the economic sphere, such as the Soviet Union, and the fast tempo of industrial progress facilitated by Government assistance, have provided examples which have been widely quoted. It is being increasingly recognised, except of course by the private industries directly concerned, that there is no room for large private entrepreneurs in a planned economy. India has such an economy though it is mixed economy.

4. The purely profitable aspect cannot be the sole determining factor in the case of key industries; there is also the social factor—the gains to society is general—to be considered. Moreover, the public disfavours the continuation of glaring economic disparities in national life which are the result of several large industries being owned continually by a group of prosperous individuals.

5. The Constitution itself requires the State to ensure that the operation of the economic system is so regulated as to avoid concentration of wealth and the ownership of the material resources and the means of production. Moreover, the interests of labour, the working classes, have also to be fully protected, and it is well known that labour does not get a fair deal under the current system.

Arguments Against

1. The theory under the garb of Socialism that nationalisation is the best solution of the economic problems of a developing country (such as India) stands exploded by the fact that there have been gross and continuous failures in the public sector, colossal inefficiency, waste, mismanagement, continuous labour trouble and too much of bureaucratic control.

2. The doctrinaire approach to economic problems and a

lack of realism that mark Governments has already done much damage to the nation's economy. It has to be remembered that unless there are incentives, there will not be the best human effort; efficiency in industrial management is, in fact, directly related to material incentives. Just as it is true that everyone's property is no one's property and there is callous indifference and waste, similarly in the public sector—State owned enterprises—people are indifferent to the interests of the country. There is no deep interest or personal involvement, and there is just "work to rule", which, in turn, means there is the minimum of individual effort. Salaries and perquisites are assured any way; so there are no innovations, no imaginative management, pampered labour and the focus is on rights, not on duties, on welfare projects, housing, bonus, more dearness allowance, etc., but not on industrial output which suffers in the process.

3. Lately, there have been so many scandals in the recruitment to the staff, especially the labour force, as a result of the "sons of the soil" policy, the clamour for reservations for Harijans, Scheduled Castes and the other backward classes, that merit is being sacrificed at the altar of expediency and the nation's interests. When extraneous considerations govern appointments, the cost to the country is incalculable; no wonder production suffers and there is considerable waste of public money in the bid to appease particular sections of the community. Public enterprises do not receive the whole-hearted co-operation of the employees because the latter know that they cannot be dismissed.

4. The extent to waste of labour and the low individual output which seems to persist are colossal. The average growth rate of the country often slows down because of the poor

performance of the public sector. And yet the Government, for purely political propaganda, advocates more take-overs of industrial enterprises. True, the performance of some public sector enterprises has improved lately and the set-up has been streamlined to reduce waste, but many of them involving an investment of thousands of crores continue to be white elephants of the country's economy.

Science for the Masses?

Q. "Science and technology have failed in India because they have not served the masses." Explain the role of science in the Indian context and give arguments For and Against the view.

Ans. The contention that science and technology have not benefited the rural masses of India was forcefully put forth at the Indian Science Congress held at Hyderabad early in January, 1979. While Prime Minister Morarji Desai stressed the urgency of giving a new direction to the development of science and technology to benefit the rural masses and the lower strata of society rather than the upper strata and the urban people, Prof R.C. Mehrotra, President of the Science Congress session, called upon scientists and technologists to prepare themselves to meet the needs of 1,000 million Indians by the year 2000 A.D. There is no doubt that Indian scientists face unprecedented challenges in making their effort relevant to the needs of the country. There is also no doubt that the fruits of the scientists' research have not reached the common man. But is barefoot technology the right solution for India's problems? The Government of India has lately given a new thrust to rural development; what role has science and technology to play in this programme? The problem, like many others pertaining to the

process of economic development, is multi-faceted.

Arguments For the View

1. Crores of rupees have been spent on scientific research in this country; there is a long chain of prestigious laboratories housed in modern, streamlined, highly attractive, luxurious buildings, and there are thousands of scientists working there. Their salary will alone has reached gigantic proportions, not to speak of the very costly equipment that is ordered for these national and other laboratories every year. But what is the net outcome from the standpoint of the common man? Virtually nil.

2. Certain sophisticated and highly expensive, time-consuming experiments have been conducted in these laboratories and considerable research work has been going on, but several scientists of foreign countries have pointed out that most of the work being done in Indian laboratories is a mere duplication of work already done in foreign laboratories, especially in the USA. What is the point in wasting crores of rupees on such duplicate scientific effort and technology when the results have already been published in foreign journals?

3. Who can deny that almost all the research done in India's science laboratories is urban-oriented and concentrated on devices which are in use only in cities and towns? The scientific gadgets, the heating and cooling devices, the new type of batteries, the coloured traffic lights at crossings, TV and other type of electronics are all for the benefit of the richer sections of the people. The masses in the rural areas do not benefit from them in any way.

4. Is it not futile to contend that the scientific research for the benefit of the masses and rural development does not offer sufficient intellectual chal-

lenges to scientists. How about the need to develop bullock-carts (which still rule the countryside despite the development of mechanised transport), simple methods of village sanitation and drawing water from wells for drinking purposes and cheaper housing? These are all spheres where science can do a great deal. But somehow the attention of scientists is not diverted to these basic issues.

5. According to the latest statistics, the number of scientists and their assistants has grown in this country at the rate of about 9 per cent in the past two decades, the total now being 20 lakhs, the third largest force of scientists in the world. India is believed to have come of age in the sphere of science and technology. But what has it done for the masses of India?

Arguments Against the View

1. The achievements of scientific research and of the thousands of scientists working in Indian laboratories cannot be measured by the good it has done to people; without science there can be no civilisation; there is science and its application in every sphere. There is no room for prejudices; there has to be endless experimentation. Who can deny that useful and interesting experiments have been going on in our laboratories? Since the days of Mr Nehru, who fully encouraged scientists, the scientific outlook has been developed in the country.

2. Indian scientists have made a name for themselves in the world and the technology they have developed in various spheres. By working quietly but consistently, Indian nuclear scientists were able to hold a nuclear test in Pokhran in 1974, one of the cleanest atomic tests held anywhere. The achievements in the sphere of nuclear energy have indeed been remarkable; note the demand for Indian technologists abroad, in

developing countries especially. Note also the achievements of our scientists at Thumba and Sriharikota in collaboration with Soviet technologists.

3. In recent years scientific research has been reoriented to meet Indian needs, but it takes time to produce results that will be applicable to Indian conditions. Already, Indian laboratories have produced devices, appliances and instruments which have been utilised by Indian industrialists. The Central Scientific Instruments Organisation has done a lot in this direction. There have been several concrete applications of science in various fields of industry.

4. Indian scientists working in agricultural research laboratories have evolved several high-yielding seeds for food-grains and other farm products. These have helped the country to bring about the Green Revolution. Time and labour-saving agricultural devices have been evolved and these have ensured immense gains to the nation's economy. Similarly, there have been fruitful researches in food articles and nutrition.

5. It may be true that there have been no spectacular results of Indian scientific research, but then the funds allotted for research constitute small fraction of the national Budget. As time passes, more results are bound to come. Even in the nuclear field Dr Sethna said recently that India would be able to find alternative nuclear fuels to keep the Tarapur atomic power plant running if the U.S.A. backs out of its commitments and does not supply the contracted quantity of enriched uranium.

All-pervasive Politics

Q. "Politics is everywhere and in all spheres of life; you cannot escape it." Clarify this statement and give reasons For

and *Against the view.*

Ans. There seems to be politics everywhere—in the economic sphere, in the religious sphere and also in educational matters. People live and fall by politics, which, apart from being a profession—and a complicated one at that—affects every aspect of life. It is futile to contend that politics does not affect other activity or that most people have no concern with it. The fact is that politics is like the air without which people find it hard to live; of course the form of politics differs; it may be crude like the political jealousies of tribesmen and rural people, or sophisticated like that of the Congress (I) or the Janata Party's leaders like Mr Morarji Desai, Mr Charan Singh and Mr Jagjivan Ram. But it is politics all the same. Real politics is, of course, a science, or rather both an art and a science. It is also a gamble; moreover, there is nothing that does not come within its purview because some politicians stoop even to the lowest level and they hope to conquer the minds and hearts of men through such tactics.

Arguments For the View

1. Puritans and fully honest, principled men and women are hard to find in the selfish world of today. Everyone is affected by extraneous considerations in making decisions and taking action in day-to-day life. This is part of politics of the home, the office and of society, even though one may not, strictly speaking, belong to any well known political party.

2. There is politics in art, literature, fashions, daily life and even in business and industry. And, believe it or not, there is politics even in the award of the Nobel Prize—the world's highest and most coveted prize and honour. How else can we explain the award of the Nobel Prize for Peace for 1978 to President Sadat of Egypt

and Mr Menachem Begin of Israel, even though they have done nothing concrete to ensure world peace and the agreement which they sought to reach has misfired so far.

3. Politics involves hypocrisy, lies, misleading statements, hiding the truth and pretending to be what one is not and also holding out false promises and making commitments which are not meant to be fulfilled and are seldom, in fact, fulfilled. Are we not, each one of us, guilty of such hypocritical acts in a smaller or greater measure? How many of us always speak the truth and call a spade a spade regardless of the consequences? Don't we try to be politely or even crudely diplomatic, and what is diplomacy but politics of a sophisticated variety in which one deceives the others?

4. Politics implies the pursuit of self-interest, whether of the individual or a party. Does not everyone pursue his self-interest? As for religion and religious places, there is politics there too. Just note the petty rivalries and jealousies of the priests and worshippers who are supposed to keep out of all feelings of animosity but who are often engaged in outbidding and outmanoeuvring the others to secure personal advantage, name and fame even in the worship of God? All Government is pure politics.

Arguments Against

1. The contention that all spheres of human activity are polluted by politics is put forth by cynics and not by rational persons. Pride, prejudices, jealousy and competition are natural, and these need not be condemned as politics. Nor should the wiles and manoeuvres of politicians be closely linked with honest human beings.

2. In fact, wise men, saints and sages advise people to keep aloof from politics which should be left to people who have made

it a profession. It is a realm in which moral standards and principles are forsaken for expediency but all human beings and all spheres of human activity need not be painted with the same brush. Temples, gurdwaras and churches are not political centres; those who talk politics there are committing a sacrilege; in any case, their number is very small and they are not liked by others. The vast majority of the people go to these places only for worship.

3. Political parties are indispensable to democracy; they mobilise public opinion and represent the masses in legislatures. But this is their legitimate sphere of activity. Of course all politicians should be principled men and women; if they are not, the fault is not of politics as such but of their own dishonest nature. All politics is not treachery, dishonesty, deceit and pretence. Actually politics, honesty and principled action are by no means irreconcilable or contradictory. Efforts should be to make politics clean and free it from cheats, hypocrites and deceivers who bring a bad name to the Government and society and to the vast body of politicians.

4. The real art of politics is the art of being honest; the technique of politicians does, however, allow for some abnormal conduct which strict principles may not permit, but such activity should be the exception rather than the rule. Moreover, why should people play into the hands of unscrupulous politicians? The people can themselves help politicians to maintain high standards, and not make society and politics corrupt. It is for the enlightened electorate to discourage pompous talk and encourage a sense of responsibility and accountability for actions and policies.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade examinations. Thoughts of certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

No matter who reigns, the merchant reigns.

The world has always been ruled by some type of aristocracy. It was Church aristocracy at one time, landed aristocracy at another and business aristocracy today. With his pockets bulging with dollars the merchant goes about ordering people. He knows that he has the master key which opens all locks. Money does all things; for it gives and it takes away, it makes honest men and knaves, fools and philosophers; and so on to the end of the chapter. In this theatre of the world the strings of the curtain are controlled by the monied man. Money talks, money prints, money broadcasts, money reigns, and kings and ministers simply register the will of money. In this capitalistic culture we make heroes of the men who sit on top of a heap of money and we pay attention not only to what they say in their field of competence but to their wisdom on every other question in the world. Merchants fly across the continents, while their merchandise is carried by the ships to different shores. They control the distribution of goods, dictate prices, can pamper big populations or starve them if they so will. Not a blade of grass moves, not a leaf rustles without their nod.

Though men are brothers their pockets are not sisters.

All religions preach the equality of man. Christianity

proclaims the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of all men. All souls, says Hinduism, are derived from the Divine and ultimately merge into it. Islam advocates universal brotherhood. The core of democracy is human equality. The best part of Socialism and Communism is their stress on the essential equality of all men and women. With this hypothesis there is neither East nor West, Border nor breed nor birth, though men may come from the ends of the earth. All this is noble utterance and lofty thinking. But how comes it that in actual practice there is so much gap between nation and nation, between man and man. One rolls in luxury while the other grovels in squalor. The rich man cosy in his castle, and the poor shivering at his gate. Democratic equality is only sentimental equality. Real equality is economic equality. Till the other day this glaring disparity was ascribed to the will of God or our deeds in previous births. The modern man refuses to subscribe to this passive doctrine. It is the economic system that has nurtured and sustained this parity. No wonder that all efforts are today directed towards redressing these economic imbalances.

The Golden age was never the present age.

There has always been a glamour about the past. People judge the past by its virtues and the present by its defects. It is

natural that the old should extol the days of their youth; the weak, the time of their strength, the sick the season of their vigour and the disappointed the spring-tide of their hopes. It is our dissatisfaction with the present that prompts us to turn to the past. The Victorian age in England was the most prosperous and the most peaceful period in English history. There was no period in the past to match it. England had built up an empire on which the sun never set. London had become the financial metropolis of the world. The vision of the millennium appeared to be well on the way to realization. And yet there came Carlyle and Ruskin, the great thinkers of the day who condemned their age as one of cash-nexus, when everything was being measured in terms of pound, shilling and pence. The 20th century has registered tremendous progress in all directions, science, technology, commerce, agriculture, industry and what not. But even here the thinkers and philosophers wistfully look back to the past as times of peace of tranquillity. One might well ask the question why does not the past decently bury itself instead of sitting waiting to be admired by the present?

We are companions in hypocrisy.

We can easily perceive the faults of others, but never our own. The vanity that is ingrained in us would not let us
(Contd. on page 472)

1. Eradication of Illiteracy in India

Aristotle was asked how much educated men were superior to the uneducated. "As much", said he "as the living are to the dead." The teeming millions of India are steeped in illiteracy and present such a sorry and dismal sight in this era of science, technology and progress.

The British never took any concerted steps to eradicate this appalling illiteracy. A few schools and fewer colleges monopolised their attention. There alone they could manufacture clerks to run their administration. And that is all that they cared for. They would shout from their house-tops that India was unfit for freedom because of illiteracy but would not stir their little finger to remove it, as if they had vested interest in its continuance.

During the last thirty-one years some efforts have been made to fight this demon, but these have been halting and half-hearted. Whatever little improvement was registered was offset by the increase in population. For the first time the

country has realized that it is a battle on two fronts. The Janata Government is earnestly engaged on both these fronts. The Government has set apart Rs. 200 crores for this project. Money is an important weapon but much more important is the enthusiasm that we have to arouse. From the Himalayas to Kanya Kumari, from Gujarat to Assam everyone should be awakened to the dire and immediate need of making this project a success. The example of China is well worth our attention and imitation. In 1924 when Dr Sun-yet Sen came to power he launched the experiment "Each one, Teach one." The vast army of students was deployed for the purpose. His own sense of sacrifice and devotion electrified the atmosphere and within years rather than decades the demon of illiteracy was mauled.

The problem is no less colossal with us. But it appears that the government is relying too much on Bureaucracy. We have had too much of arm-chair schemes and copy-book maxims. They have toyed with the idea

of pressing television into service. If time-factor does not weigh with us, T.V. may be all right as a plank. Similarly they advocate the enlistment of film-actors' support. It is difficult to imagine, that film stars for whom money is a big, rather the only, attraction will condescend to oblige. And then to go to villages! The whole thing is impracticable, if not fantastic.

What is needed is not the teaching of the 3Rs but something that is functional and purposive, something undivorced from the environment of the learner. If he is working on a farm or in a factory he should be made to realise that what he is learning will promote and improve his job prospects. The approach has to be integral, a combination of literal and environmental education.

It is a big experiment, wholly new but suited to the needs of the country. It has to be done in a big way. If successful it will mean a big leap forward. We shall then join the comity of nations, raising our head high.

2. Is the Modern Student Pampered ?

One of the thorniest questions before the country today is that of indiscipline among the students. Hardly a day passes when we do not hear students setting authority at naught and taking the law into their own hands. Strikes have become their normal tool. All this has led some people to believe that the students of today is not being handled properly.

He is being humoured, flattered and even pampered, otherwise he should not have been as naughty and intractable as he is.

The absence of corporal punishment at the school stage has turned the students' head. The student of yesterday was subjected to a stern discipline for ten years. The rod was freely employed in cases of delin-

quency, and the fear of this effective weapon kept him in proper trim. He bowed to authority. In fact he used to be beaten into shape. Today, however, the rod has been banned by orders of the educational authorities. The teachers and the headmasters feel quite helpless because they are now unarmed. The students do as they like. They may revere a

teacher here and a teacher there but by and large they are disrespectful and even defiant.

The student of yesterday gave all his time to studies. He was devoted to his books. The introduction of the cinema has distracted his attention. No concrete steps have been taken to wean him from this distracting entertainment. Rather, films are being shown in schools and colleges under the guise of audio-visual education. He is being pampered and petted whereas the need of the day is to restrain him from this wasteful and vicious habit.

The student of yesterday depended on his own efforts and resources. He studied several books for his examinations, and that helped him in understanding the subjects. The student of today has been provided with short cuts and guides, cribs and bazar-notes. Everything is presented to him, cut-and-dried, as if on a platter. He has grown mentally lethargic and nothing is being done to arrest this growing lethargy. All this and much more like the patronage of the students' Unions has given rise to the feeling that the modern student is being pampered to an undesirable and even dangerous extent.

But we cannot put the hands of the clock backward. Circumstances have changed and we cannot apply nineteenth-century methods to solve twentieth century problems. The rod has been dismissed as a relic of barbarous times. It negates human dignity. It is contrary to the basic principle of democracy. It should therefore go, lock stock and barrel. The student should be handled with sympathy, understanding and affection and he is bound to respond. If an appeal is made to his dignity and self-respect it must have a greater and profounder and more lasting effect. Educational psychologists have

tried these methods with remarkable success.

There is nothing wrong with the cinema as such. What is needed is a discriminating use of it. Cinema and the radio are powerful educators and their possibilities should be exploited to the full.

Everybody, however, agrees that the notes and guides should be discouraged and even taboo-

ed. One way of eliminating them is that the question papers should be so framed as to render them useless.

The modern student is not pampered. He has developed his wings in the free atmosphere of democracy and naturally he is more conscious of his rights than the student of yesterday. We should encourage him in asserting his rights and obtaining them.

Model Paragraphs

(Contd. from page 470)

see them. The clergyman harangues from the pulpit exhorting the congregation to eschew the seven deadly sins. But back home he may commit each one of them without let or hindrance or even remorse. Is he not shielded by the cassock he wears? The wig-wearing judge sentences a culprit for offering bribe to a government official but himself suffers no qualm of conscience in getting his palm greased, the quantum of grease varying with the magnitude of the offence. A political party comes to power by denouncing the misdeeds of the ruling party but once in the saddle repeats all those 'misdeeds'. May be what

was a misdeed once has become a compulsion. There is the story of a man who was condemning the wide-spread dishonesty. Only this morning, he said, the vegetable-seller gave me a base coin. When asked where it was at the time he said "why, I palmed it off to the milkseller". We are all hypocrites. The frying-pan says to the kettle "Avaunt, black brows". We can see the straw in the neighbour's eye but not the beam in our own. When a man points a finger at some one else he should remember that three of his fingers are pointing at himself.

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CIVICS

1. The credentials of all Ambassadors or High Commissioners of foreign countries are received by:

- (a) Prime Minister
- (b) Foreign Minister
- (c) President

2. The President is elected indirectly by an Electoral College consisting of the:

- (a) members of Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies
- (b) elected members of Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies
- (c) members of Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and Rajya Sabha
- (d) elected members of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies

3. Which one of the following conditions is necessary for a person who wants to stand for the office of the President of India?

- (a) a person should be a specialist in atleast one field
- (b) a person should be above the age of 40
- (c) a person should be above the age of 35

4. The legal rights granted to the citizens are divided into

two groups namely:

- (a) Civil and Fundamental Rights
- (b) Civil and Political Rights
- (c) Political and Fundamental Rights

5. "Preventive detention" involves imprisonment:

- (a) without trial
- (b) without trial before any crime has actually been committed
- (c) given by Lok Sabha for breach of privilege

6. The Right to Freedom of Religion is guaranteed in the Indian Constitution in Articles:

- (a) 25 to 28
- (b) 23 and 24
- (c) 9 to 22

7. The fundamental right which permits Indian citizens free discussion and exchange of views and includes freedom of Press is called:

- (a) Right to assemble peacefully and without arms
- (b) Right to form Associations and Unions
- (c) Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression

8. The Right to Equality provides every Indian citizen equality before law under:

- (a) Article 12
- (b) Article 14

(c) Article 16

9. The Fundamental Rights are embodied in:

- (a) Part III of the Indian Constitution
- (b) Part II of the Indian Constitution
- (c) Part IV of the Indian Constitution

10. Directive Principles are divided into Socialist, Gandhian and Liberal Principles. "Raising the standard of health and nutrition of people"—this principle comes under:

- (a) Gandhian Principles
- (b) Liberal Principles
- (c) Socialist Principles

11. Which of the following is not a fundamental right?

- (a) Right to work, education and public assistance
- (b) Right to form associations
- (c) Right to Freedom of Speech
- (d) Right to Freedom of Religion

12. In India there are double set of governments; one in Centre and the other in State. But there is no state citizenship and every Indian has the same rights. This means that Indian Constitution is:

- (a) Federal
- (b) Unitary

- (c) Federal in form but unitary in spirit
13. A Secular State:
- does not believe in God
 - believes in only one particular religion
 - prefers to leave religion as a matter of individual conscience
14. The Parliament has the power to amend the Constitution. This has been stated in the:
- Article 349 of the Constitution
 - Article 360 of the Constitution
 - Article 390 of the Constitution
15. The Chief executive or the head of Indian Union is elected for a fixed period and his office is not hereditary. This means that India is:
- Democratic
 - a Republic
 - a "Dominion"
16. India had been a "dominion" of British:
- before the Indian Independence Act of 1947
 - from 15th August 1947 to 26th January 1950
 - from 15th August 1947 to 26th November 1949
17. The Preamble of the Constitution is:
- a part of the Constitution
 - not a part of the Constitution
 - does not have any concern with the Constitution
18. The Cabinet Mission Plan took:
- nearly 3 years to frame the Constitution of India
 - nearly 4 years to frame the Constitution of India
 - nearly 2 years to frame the Constitution of India
19. The Prime Minister gets a salary of Rs. :
- 10,000
 - 5,000
 - 6,000
20. The members of Rajya Sabha are elected indirectly by the:
- elected members of Lok Sabha
 - elected members of State Legislative Assemblies
 - elected members of Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies
- ### INDIAN HISTORY
21. The Paleolithic age existed between approximately:
- 300,000 B.C. and 10,000 B.C.
 - 30,000 B.C. and 1,000 B.C.
 - 3,000,000 B.C. and 100,000 B.C.
22. The two cities of Mohenjodaro and Harappa are situated at a distance of about:
- 630 km
 - 760 km
 - 640 km
23. The Indus Valley Civilization existed about:
- 4,000 years before Christ
 - 3,000 years before Christ
 - 5,000 years before Christ
24. Mohenjodaro was discovered by R.D. Banerjee in:
- 1923
 - 1924
 - 1922
25. The measurements of the Great Bath at Mohenjodaro are:
- 12m × 7m × 2½m
 - 12m × 6m × 2m
 - 10m × 7m × 2½m
26. The area which the Aryans occupied in India was called:
- Punjab
 - Sapta Sindhu
 - Brahmavarta
27. The Rigveda consists of:
- 1,000 hymns
 - 2,028 hymns
 - 1,028 hymns
 - 1,038 hymns
28. The famous "Gayatri Mantra" is contained in:
- Atharvaveda
 - Samaveda
 - Rigveda
29. Mahabharata was written by:
- Sage Valmiki
 - Tulsidas
 - Sage Vyasa
30. One of the greatest women of Vedic times was:
- Ghosla
 - Ragini
 - Urvashi
31. The capital of Magadha Kingdom was:
- Patna
 - Girivraja
 - Bhagalpur
32. Bimbisara became king in about:
- 552 B.C.
 - 542 B.C.
 - 532 B.C.
33. Alexander was born in:
- 356 B.C.
 - 326 B.C.
 - 366 B.C.
34. Mahavira's mother's name was:
- Trishala
 - Mahamaya
 - Upanga
35. Mahavira died at the age of 72 at:
- Kapilvastu
 - Pawa
 - Kushinagar
36. The three virtues which Mahavira asked his followers to follow are called:
- Noble three fold path
 - Tri Ratna
 - Trimuvate

37. Name of Buddha's father was:

- (a) Vardhamana
- (b) Sidharatta
- (c) Suddhodana.

38. Buddha left his home, in order to find the cause of suffering, in:

- (a) 547 B.C.
- (b) 567 B.C.
- (c) 537 B.C..

39. The diameter of the existing Sanchi Stupa is:

- (a) 38 meters
- (b) 37 meters.
- (c) 35 meters

40. The typical feature of Mathura School of Art was:

- (a) using of marble
- (b) using of granite stone
- (c) using of red spotted stone,

HISTORY OF THE WORLD

41. Pope John the Tenth was deposed by woman called:

- (a) Marozia.
- (b) Razia
- (c) Papacy

42. Philip was King of Macedonia from:

- (a) 359 to 336 B.C..
- (b) 360 to 336 B.C.
- (c) 322 to 300 B.C.

43. Philip conquered the Greeks at:

- (a) Macedonia
- (b) Chaeronea.
- (c) Turkistan

44. Alexander ventured upon his career of world conquest on

- (a) 336 B.C.
- (b) 326 B.C.
- (c) 334 B.C..

45. Nero ruled Rome from:

- (a) 54 A.D. to 68 A.D..
- (b) 64 A.D. to 78 A.D.
- (c) 53 A.D. to 68 A.D.

46. Latin reached its highest perfection both as a written as well as a spoken language in the writings of:

- (a) Cicero.

(b) Aristotle

(c) Tacitus

47. Europe was threatened by the Huns under the chief named:

- (a) Franks
- (b) Attila.
- (c) Odoacer

48. Constantinople was conquered by Turks in:

- (a) 1454 A.D.
- (b) 1544 A.D.
- (c) 1453 A.D..

49. One of the famous Muslim physicians was:

- (a) Avicenna.
- (b) Harun-al-Rashid
- (c) Fatima

50. After Mohammed the Prophet died, his place was taken by:

- (a) Abu Bakr.
- (b) Zeid
- (c) Khadija

51. The Holy Koran has got:

- (a) 124 chapters
- (b) 114 chapters.
- (c) 134 chapters
- (d) 144 chapters

52. Mohammed the Prophet's flight to Medina is known as:

- (a) Great Renunciation
- (b) Hijira.
- (c) Muharum

53. The new religion was revealed to Mohammed the Prophet by the archangel:

- (a) Zeid
- (b) Gabriel.
- (c) Khadija

54. Mohammed the Prophet was born in the year:

- (a) 570 A.D..
- (b) 670 A.D.
- (c) 750 A.D.
- (d) 760 A.D.

55. In 48 B.C. Caesar defeated Pompey at:

- (a) Italy
- (b) Pharsalus.
- (c) Rome

56. In 670 B.C. Egypt was conquered by:

(a) Assyrians.

(b) Aryans

(c) Vandals

(d) Huns

57. The first Punic war began in:

- (a) 264 B.C..
- (b) 246 B.C.
- (c) 244 B.C.

58. Rome was sacked by the Vandals in:

- (a) 445 A.D.
- (b) 455 A.D..
- (c) 544 A.D.

59. The OLD TESTAMENT is a collection of:

- (a) 38 books
- (b) 39 books.
- (c) 58 books
- (d) 59 books

60. In 63 B.C. the Jews came in contact with the Romans, because of the arrival of:

- (a) Caesar
- (b) Antony
- (c) Pompey.
- (d) Marcus Crassius

61. The Jews were originally nomads from:

- (a) Arabian Deserts.
- (b) Sahara Desert
- (c) Thar Deserts
- (d) Palestine

62. By the year 272 A.D. the Goths had divided into two sects:

- (a) Ostrogoths and Visigoths.
- (b) Northern Goths and Southern Goths
- (c) Greater Goths and lower Goths

63. The Goths and Vandals originally came from:

- (a) Hungary
- (b) Germany.
- (c) Africa
- (d) Portugal

64. Portugal had originally been a vassal state of:

- (a) England
- (b) Castile.
- (c) Aragon

65. The Hundred Year's war which was fought between England and France was fought from:

- (a) 1338 to 1438
- (b) 1338 to 1453
- (c) 1323 to 1453
- (d) 1323 to 1423

GEOGRAPHY

66. The visible yellow face of Sun is called:

- (a) Corona
- (b) Photosphere
- (c) Ionosphere
- (d) Stratosphere

67. Jupiter has:

- (a) 10 Satellites
- (b) 12 Satellites
- (c) 9 Satellites
- (d) 5 Satellites

68. Uranus revolves round the sun in:

- (a) 84 years
- (b) 29.5 years
- (c) 86 years
- (d) 248 years

69. Earth's equatorial diameter is:

- (a) 22756 kms
- (b) 12756 kms
- (c) 40000 kms
- (d) 22776 kms

70. A point at the equator moves with a speed of:

- (a) 166 km per hour
- (b) 1669.8 km per hour
- (c) 1120 km per hour
- (d) 1559.8 km per hour

71. The man, who measured the circumference of the earth for the first time was:

- (a) Newton
- (b) Eratosthenes
- (c) Aryabhatta
- (d) Bana

72. The difference between Indian Standard Time and Greenwich time is:

- (a) $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours
- (b) $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours
- (c) 6 hours
- (d) 5 hours

73. The atmosphere layer closest to earth is called:

- (a) Photosphere
- (b) Exosphere
- (c) Stratosphere
- (d) Troposphere

74. The Sun's energy is called:

- (a) isolation
- (b) insolation
- (c) phototropism

75. Diurnal range of temperature is:

- (a) difference between maximum and minimum temperature of a day.
- (b) difference between maximum and minimum temperature
- (c) difference between mean average temp. of hottest and coldest months

76. The region between Tropic of Cancer and Equator is called:

- (a) North Torrid Zone
- (b) North Frigid Zone
- (c) South Frigid Zone
- (d) South Torrid Zone

77. On earth's surface the atmospheric pressure is about:

- (a) 20 kg per sq. cm
- (b) 7 kg per six sq. cm
- (c) 20 kg per six sq. cm
- (d) 8 kg per sq. cm

78. Winds that blow constantly in a particular direction throughout the year are called:

- (a) local winds
- (b) periodic winds
- (c) prevailing winds

79. Trade winds cover roughly the zone between:

- (a) 5° and 30°
- (b) 10° and 40°
- (c) 0° and 30°

80. A cyclone represents a position of atmosphere in which:

- (a) there is high pressure in the centre and low pressure around
- (b) there is low pressure all around
- (c) low pressure in the centre and high pressure around.

81. In Northern Hemisphere the cyclones move:

- (a) in straight line
- (b) in anticlockwise direction
- (c) in clockwise direction

ANSWERS

(Civics)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (d) |
| 3. (c) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (b) | 6. (a) |
| 7. (c) | 8. (b) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (c) |
| 13. (c) | 14. (b) |
| 15. (b) | 16. (b) |
| 17. (b) | 18. (a) |
| 19. (b) | 20. (b) |

(Indian History)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 21. (a) | 22. (c) |
| 23. (b) | 24. (c) |
| 25. (a) | 26. (b) |
| 27. (c) | 28. (c) |
| 29. (c) | 30. (a) |
| 31. (b) | 32. (b) |
| 33. (a) | 34. (a) |
| 35. (b) | 36. (b) |
| 37. (c) | 38. (c) |
| 39. (b) | 40. (c) |

(History of the World)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 41. (a) | 42. (a) |
| 43. (b) | 44. (c) |
| 45. (a) | 46. (a) |
| 47. (b) | 48. (c) |
| 49. (a) | 50. (a) |
| 51. (b) | 52. (b) |
| 53. (b) | 54. (a) |
| 55. (b) | 56. (a) |
| 57. (a) | 58. (b) |
| 59. (b) | 60. (c) |
| 61. (a) | 62. (a) |
| 63. (b) | 64. (b) |
| 65. (b) | |

(Geography)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 66. (b) | 67. (b) |
| 68. (a) | 69. (b) |
| 70. (b) | 71. (b) |
| 72. (a) | 73. (d) |
| 74. (b) | 75. (a) |
| 76. (a) | 77. (b) |
| 78. (c) | 79. (a) |
| 80. (c) | 81. (b) |

General Knowledge Test

Q. 1. What is a "Budget"? When is the Budget of the Government of India normally presented, and in which House? Is Parliament competent to discuss the provision made in the Budget for the emoluments and allowances of the President?

Ans. 'Budget' is the annual financial statement. It is presented to the Lok Sabha normally at 5 p.m. on the last working day of February every year when the Stock Exchanges close for the day. Simultaneously, a copy of it is placed on the table of the Rajya Sabha.

As the State today is the nation's biggest spender, lender, borrower, property-owner, insurer, businessman, industrialist and banker, it provides increasingly a variety of social services like housing, education, health and employment. All this needs money and the 'Budget' is an instrument of the economic and social policies of the Government. The Budget is a programme of action with a financing plan and an expenditure plan. It gives detailed proposals as to how much is to be spent on what and how much of it is to be contributed by whom and from where.

The Parliament is not competent to discuss the provision made in the Budget for the emoluments and allowances of

the President. Article 113 of the Constitution enjoins that such sums as are charged on the Consolidated Fund like the salary, allowances etc. of the President, the Presiding Officers of the Parliament, Judges of the Supreme Court etc., need not be voted upon.

Q. 2. What are the (i) financial, (ii) judicial and (iii) Emergency powers of the President of India?

Ans. (i) Financial Powers: The President of India has been vested with important financial powers. For example, a money bill can be introduced in Parliament only on the President's recommendations. He can, as and when he thinks necessary, appoint a Finance Commission to make recommendations regarding the distribution of tax revenues between the Centre and the States. At the beginning of every financial year, he causes to be laid before Parliament the Budget (called the Annual Financial Statement) giving estimates of revenue receipts and expenditure during the coming year.

(ii) Judicial Powers: The President has the judicial powers to grant pardons, reprieves, respite or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person in certain cases.

(iii) Emergency Powers: An emergency under Article 352 can be proclaimed by the President only to deal with (i) internal armed rebellion or (ii) external aggression according to the Constitution (44th Amendment) Bill.

Q. 3. Write a short note on: "Collective Responsibility of the Cabinet".

Ans. Collective Responsibility of the Cabinet: In terms of Article 75(3) of the Constitution of India, the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the House of the People. This is an important feature of the working of the Parliamentary democracies everywhere. It means the cabinet is enjoined upon to function as a team—each for all, and all for each. It is of course unrealistic to expect that all members of the Council of Ministers will be always in agreement over all matters. But the observance of the principle of collective responsibility demands that such differences of opinion as may be found existing among members of the cabinet over a particular issue should be resolved behind the scenes and not aired publicly. Once the government declares a policy, the entire cabinet stands committed. It is all right if one or more of the mem-

bers of the Council of Ministers differ with that policy as long as they do not express their disagreement in public. All ministers must speak with one voice. If one of them feels that in all conscience, he cannot subscribe to the policies adopted by the cabinet, the only course for him is to resign. Likewise the failure of an individual minister is regarded as a failure of the whole cabinet.

Q. 4. What is the historical significance of the following:

(a) Neolithic Age; (b) Indus Valley Civilization; (c) Bhakti Movement; (d) Age of the Imperial Guptas; (e) Magna Carta; (f) The French Revolution.

Ans. (a) Neolithic Age: The stone age is known as the Neolithic age. All those remains of prehistoric man that included stone tools shaped by polishing that appeared in the archaeological record before the emergence of metal (or bronze age) are known as belonging to the Neolithic age.

(b) Indus Valley Civilization: The Indus Valley Civilization was one of the earliest civilizations about which we know something. It derives its name from the river Indus, because the numerous sites at which the remains of this civilization have been found are all situated in the basin of the river Indus and its tributaries. It was in 1921 that traces of this ancient civilization were first discovered at Harappa in the Montgomery district of Punjab (now in Pakistan). Next year, an equally important site was unearthed at Mohenjo Daro in the Larkana district of Sind.

(c) Bhakti Movement: "Bhakti Cult" was a socio-religious movement revived in India during the 15th and 16th century A.D. The new schools of religion gathered momentum as a result of Islamic influence. The belief in one God and the

democratic spirit of Islam served as a potent factor in the evolution of Bhakti movement. Its main purpose was to bring reform in Hindu religion and check conversions to Islam. The saintly reformers preached a non-ritualistic and unflinching devotion to a personal God to attain salvation. They pointed out the absurdity of the caste system and preached a religion open to all without any distinction of caste or creed. Another attempt of some of the reformers was to bridge the gulf between the Hindus and Muslims. The teachings of Kabir and Guru Nanak were particularly directed towards that end.

(d) Age of Imperial Guptas: The Imperial Guptas ruled for about 200 years (320-550 A.D.) and founded a powerful empire. It was the golden period of the Hindus.

The founder of this powerful kingdom was Chandra Gupta I (320-330 A.D.). He started Gupta Era. The other famous kings of Gupta Dynasty were Samudra Gupta (330-375 A.D.), Chandra Gupta II, popularly known as Vikramaditya (375-413 A.D.).

The Imperial Guptas freed the country from foreign domination and the country made much progress politically, intellectually and culturally during their reigns.

(e) Magna Carta: It was the *Charter of Liberties* which King John II was forced to sign in 1215. It meant to put a check upon the arbitrary powers of the King. The most important principle that it laid down was that Englishmen should be governed by definite laws and not by the whims or the will of a despotic ruler. Magna Carta was said to be "the foundation-stone of the rights and liberties of the English people".

(f) The French Revolution:

It was brought about in 1789 by the revolutionary teachings of French philosophers namely, Rousseau, Voltaire and Montesquieu. In those days in France, the Clergy enjoyed privileges at the expense of the poor people. Rousseau preached the gospel of "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity". The revolt spread when a mob stormed the Bastille Prison in Paris. King Louis XVI was executed in 1793 and the Queen Marie Antoinette also suffered death later. Napoleon emerged as Emperor of France.

Q. 5. Give the years in which the following events took place:

(i) Alexander's invasion of India; (ii) Battle of Plassey; (iii) Indian National Congress founded; (iv) Morley-Minto Reforms introduced; (v) Jallianwalabagh massacre; (vi) "Quit India" resolution passed by Indian National Congress.

Ans. (i) 327 B.C.; (ii) 1757 (iii) 1885; (iv) 1909; (v) 1919; (vi) 1942.

Q. 6. Give the year of the following events:

(i) Integration of the Princely States;

(ii) Discovery of sea route to India;

(iii) First General Election to the Lok Sabha;

(iv) Invasion of India by Nadir Shah.

Ans. (i) 1948; (ii) 1498; (iii) 1952; (iv) 1739.

Q. 7. Write historical notes on:

(i) Babar; (ii) Lord Cornwallis.

Ans. (i) Babar: Zahir-ud-Din Babar was founder of the Mughal Empire in India. He conquered the throne of Delhi after the first battle of Panipat (1526) and ruled for four years (1526-30). Babar was gifted by nature with an extraordinary

amount of energy, self-confidence and the power to instil hope and enthusiasm in his subjects. "He possessed eight fundamental qualities—lofty judgment, noble ambition, the art of victory, the art of government, the art of conferring prosperity upon his people, the talent ruling mildly the people of God, ability to win the hearts of his soldiers and love of Justice".
—RUSHBROOK WILLIAMS.

(ii) **Lord Cornwallis:** A general and diplomat was commander of the British forces which surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown in 1781, ending the war of American Independence. He was twice Governor-General of India (1786-93). During his 8-year reign, Lord Cornwallis defeated Tipu Sultan, carried out the Permanent Revenue Settlement of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, ushered in an era of law and order in India and made justice impartial and cheap.

Lord Cornwallis was a very honest man. He was simple and unassuming and had a high sense of public duty.

Q. 8. In which century did each of the following rulers reign?

(i) Humayun; (ii) Shah Jahan; (iii) Harsha Vardhana; (iv) Krishna Deva Raya; (v) Asoka; (vi) Kanishka.

Ans. (i) sixteenth; (ii) seventeenth; (iii) seventh; (iv) sixteenth; (v) third century B.C. (273-232 B.C.); (vi) first century B.C.

Q. 9. Where in India are the following located?

(i) National Institute of Oceanography.

(ii) Bharat Electronics Limited.

(iii) Integral Coach Factory.

(iv) Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

(v) National Aeronautical

Laboratory.

(vi) Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports.

Ans. (i) Panaji (Goa); (ii) Jalahalli, Bangalore; (iii) Perambur, Madras; (iv) Dehra Dun; (v) Bangalore; (vi) Patiala.

Q. 10. (i) What is the circumference of the Earth at the Equator?

(ii) What is the mean distance of the Sun from the Earth?

(iii) What is the duration of the day at the Poles?

(iv) What are Isotherms and Isobars?

(v) What is the Stratosphere?

Ans. (i) 24,902.45 miles.

(ii) About 93,000,000 (93 million) miles.

(iii) Six months.

(iv) **Isotherms** are lines on a map joining those places which have the same mean temperature. **Isobars** are lines drawn on a map joining places which have the same barometric pressure.

(v) **Stratosphere:** is the second layer of the earth's atmosphere which begins at a height of nearly 10 miles above the Equator, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles at latitude 50° and four miles at the Poles. In the stratosphere, the temperature does not decrease with the altitude but remains uniform at about -90°C over the Equator and -46°C at the Poles.

Q. 11. Answer the following:

(i) What is a Seismograph?

(ii) Who are the Bantus?

(iii) What is a Nilgai?

(iv) What is Lactometer?

(v) What is the Milky Way?

Ans. (i) **Seismograph:** It is an instrument used for recording earthquake shocks.

(ii) **Bantus:** are inhabitants of east central Africa inhabiting the highlands between Lakes Victoria, Kyoga, Albert, Edward, Kivu and Tanganyika.

These peoples have a linguistic unity and share a tendency to form powerful states ruled by hereditary kings.

(iii) **Nilgai:** or the *blue bull* is a deer found in the hilly regions of the Himalayas. The adult bulls of the nilgai are bluish grey with short, slightly spirling horns. The females are, however, pale yellow and hornless.

(iv) **Lactometer:** It is an apparatus used for measuring the purity of milk.

(v) **Milky Way:** also called Galaxy is a belt of stars encircling the heavens and consisting of dense clouds of stars, very clearly visible on clear nights.

Q. 12. What are the following:

(i) Anticyclone, (ii) Aurora, (iii) Glacier, (iv) Meteorite, (v) Atoll.

Ans. (i) **Anticyclone:** a system of winds in which the winds blow spirally towards a central region of low pressure is called Cyclone. The system of winds where the winds blow spirally outwards from a central region of high pressure is called an *Anticyclone*.

(ii) **Aurora:** is a light phenomenon seen at nights in the northern and southern hemispheres. It consists of beams of many coloured light quivering in the sky. *Aurora Borealis* is seen in the north of Norway and in corresponding latitudes. A similar phenomenon seen in the southern hemisphere is called *Aurora Australis*.

(iii) **Glacier:** are consolidated masses of snow which descend very gradually down the valleys and the slopes of mountains and after passing the snowline, melt and run off in stream. Glaciers occur in Greenland, Antarctic etc.

(iv) **Meteorite:** are shooting stars or solid bodies that

become heated and visible as they pass through the atmosphere of earth. Some of these reach the ground. The object which has been a meteor in flight then becomes a meteorite.

(v) **Atoll:** A *Coral Reef* in the shape of a ring or horseshoe, enclosing a *Lagoon* is called *Atoll*.

Q. 13. In which states of India are the following situated and what is the importance of each ?

(i) Panna (ii) Namrup (iii) Gomia (iv) Koyali (v) Khetri.

Ans. (i) **Panna:** is a town and district in the Rewa Division of Madhya Pradesh situated 177 km. south-west of Jhansi. Panna district is known for diamond mines. Panna town has several buildings of historical interest including Shri Baldeoji temple built by Maharana Pratap Singh. In 1675, Chhatarsal, the ruler of Bundelkhand made it his capital and the town gained importance during that period.

(ii) **Namrup:** in Assam is known for fertiliser factory set up in Public Sector by the Fertiliser Corporation of India.

(iii) **Gomia:** in Bihar is known for explosive factory.

(iv) **Koyali:** in Maharashtra is known for Petro-Chemical complex.

(v) **Khetri:** in Rajasthan is known for copper mines.

Q. 14. Answer the following:

(i) Which is the highest tower in the world?

(ii) Which is the smallest continent in the world?

(iii) Which is the largest Peninsula in the world?

(iv) Which is the longest platform in the world?

Ans. (i) Ostankino Tower in Moscow; (ii) Australia; (iii) India; (iv) Kharagpur (West

Bengal).

Q. 15. Where are the following situated?

(i) Tower of victory.

(ii) Hanging gardens.

(iii) Statue of Liberty.

(iv) Leaning tower of Pisa.

Ans. (i) Chittorgarh (Rajasthan); (ii) Bombay; (iii) New York; (iv) Italy.

Q. 16. Which state leads in the production of:

(i) Uranium; (ii) Petroleum; (iii) Heavy water; (iv) Lignite.

Ans. (i) Bihar; (ii) Assam; (iii) Punjab; (iv) Tamil Nadu.

Q. 17. Name the places in India where ship-building Yards in the Public Sector are located.

Ans. India has three ship-building yards in the public Sector: (1) the Hindustan Shipyard at Visakhapatnam, (2) Garden Reach Workshop at Calcutta, and (3) Mazagon Dock at Bombay. A fourth shipyard at Cochin (also in Public Sector) is under construction.

Q. 18. In which Indian States are the following situated?

(i) Hirakud dam; (ii) Nagarjunasagar dam; (iii) Koyna dam; (iv) Bokaro Steel Plant; (v) Bhilai Steel Plant; (vi) Elephanta caves.

Ans. (i) Orissa; (ii) Andhra Pradesh; (iii) Maharashtra; (iv) Bihar; (v) Madhya Pradesh; (vi) Maharashtra.

Q. 19. Which of the five towns given below are north of the Tropic of Cancer?

Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Bhopal, Calcutta, Jhansi, Jabalpur, Patna, Ranchi, Udaipur, Varanasi.

Ans. Allahabad, Jhansi, Patna, Udaipur, Varanasi.

Q. 20. What are the main objectives of the UNESCO?

Ans. UNESCO: (United

Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation). Its objects are: (1) to promote peace and security in the world through education, science and culture, (2) to broaden the base of education, so that opportunities for going to school will be available to all people in every country, in order to wipe out illiteracy and to raise educational standards throughout.

Q. 21. Answer the following:

(a) What are the "Four Freedoms"?

(b) What are the five principles of "Panch Sheel"?

(c) Which specialised Agencies of the United Nations deal with (i) aviation, (ii) labour problems, (iii) nutrition and (iv) exchange rates?

Ans. (a) These are: (1) Freedom of speech and expression (2) Freedom to worship God in one's own way; (3) Freedom from want; (4) Freedom from fear.

(b) The five principles of Panch Sheel are: (1) Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty; (2) Non-aggression; (3) Non-interference in each other's internal affairs for any reason, either of economic, political or ideological character; (4) Equality and mutual benefit; and (5) Peaceful co-existence.

(c) (i) International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO); (ii) International Labour Organisation (ILO); (iii) Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO); (iv) International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Q. 22. Name the capitals of the following countries:

(i) Iran, (ii) New Zealand, (iii) Poland, (iv) Sudan, (v) Cyprus, (vi) Indonesia.

Ans. (i) Teheran; (ii) Wellington; (iii) Warsaw; (iv) Khartoum; (v) Nicosia; (vi) Jakarta.



SPORTS

VIII ASIAN GAMES

(Dec. 9-20, 1978)

held at Bangkok (Thailand)

Japan Top: The VIII Asian Games concluded at Bangkok on December 20 in a blaze of glory for Japan who reaped a rich harvest of 70 gold, 59 silver and 49 bronze medals.

The 12-day festival, in which over 3,000 competitors from 25 countries participated, was, according to tradition, declared closed by the President of the Asian Games Federation, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapaya, a mid-st colourful and touching scenes. The Games had been inaugurated on December 9 by the King of Thailand.

As hosts for the 1982 Games, India's flag went up on the mast on the right side of the Asian Games flag. On the other side Thailand's national flag fluttered. The national anthems of Thailand and India were played.

The Games so far have been held at New Delhi (1951), Manila (1954), Tokyo (1958), Jakarta (1962), Bangkok (1966), Bangkok (1970) and Teheran (1974).

The following was the final medals tally:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Japan	70	59	49
China	51	54	46
S. Korea	18	20	31
N. Korea	15	13	15
Thailand	11	12	19
India	11	11	6
Indonesia	8	7	18
Pakistan	4	4	9
Philippines	4	4	6
Iraq	2	4	6
Singapore	2	1	4
Malaysia	2	1	3
Mongolia	1	3	5
Lebanon	1	1	0
Syria	1	0	0

Burma	0	3	3
Hongkong	0	2	3
Sri Lanka	0	0	2
Kuwait	0	0	1

Best All-round Athletes: Japan's Hisashi Iwai gave a superb display of speed, skill and stamina by winning the 10-event decathlon with 7,003 points. Among the women to achieve this distinction was Yeh Pei-su of China with a tally of 4,133 points in the pentathlon.

Fastest Runners: Yin Yaping of China proved to be the fastest woman runner in Asia when she burst through the tape in 12.20 seconds in the 100 metres. This honour among men was claimed by Uschari Jaesuraparp of Thailand who clocked a timing of 10.44 seconds.

India's Performance: India sent a large contingent of 167 to participate in 13 disciplines. Besides the 140 competitors the Union Education Ministry cleared 27 officials, with B.S. Adityan as Chef-de-Mission. Some other Indians also went to Bangkok to attend meetings of the various sports-controlling bodies.

India finished sixth with a respectable medals tally of 11 gold, 11 silver and six bronze medals. These, however, were achieved only in seven events—athletics (8-7-3), wrestling (2-1-0), shooting (1-0-0), boxing (0-1-2), yachting (0-1-0), hockey (0-1-0) and tennis (0-0-1). Our competitors in weightlifting, badminton, volleyball, football, cycling and archery flopped completely.

Wiry Hari Chand, displaying tremendous stamina, scored a grand gold-double by winning

the 5,000 metres and the 10,000 metres races. India's sprint ace R. Gnanasekharan carried away the top honours in the 200 metres race and was beaten by the fraction of second in the 100 metres final.

Tall, well-built and extremely fit Geeta Zutshi gladdened the hearts of her countrymen by winning a gold medal in 800 metres race and a silver in the 1,500 metres race. Another woman athlete to make a mark was Angel Mary Joseph. She became the second best all-rounder of Asia by claiming a silver in the five-event pentathlon. She also won a silver medal in the long jump.

The Indian hockey team shattered the hopes of the fans of the game and lost to Pakistan by one goal in the final. Pakistan thus scored a hat-trick, having won in the 1974 and 1970 games. Since the introduction of hockey in the Games in 1958, India has won only once, in the 1966 Tokyo Games. Both India and Pakistan finished at the top of their respective pools. In the semi-finals, India defeated Japan by 2-0 and Pakistan got the better of Malaysia by 5-2.

India's medal-winners were:

GOLD

1. Hari Chand (Athletics—5000 metres)
2. Hari Chand (Athletics—10,000 metres)
3. Sriram Singh (athletics—800 metres)
4. Suresh Babu (athletics—long jump)
5. Hakam Singh (athletics—20 km walk)
6. R. Gnanasekharan (athletics—200 metres)
7. Bahadur Singh (athletics—shot put)
8. Geeta Zutshi (athletics—800 metres)
9. Randhir Singh (shooting—trap)
10. Kartar Singh (wrestling—90 kg)
11. Rajinder Singh (wrestling—74 kg)

SILVER

1. Angel Mary Joseph (athletics—pentathlon)
2. Angel Mary Joseph (athletics—long jump)
3. Uday Prabhu (athletics—400 metres)
4. R. Gnanasekharan (athletics—100 metres)
5. Gopal Saini (athletics—3000 m steeplechase)
6. Murli Kuttan, Harkamaljit Singh, Uday Prabhu and Srinam Singh (athletics—4×400 metres relay)
7. Geeta Zutshi (athletics—1,500 metres)
8. Satpal Singh (wrestling—over 100 kg)
9. S.K. Mongia and Dharmendra Kumar (Yachting—Enterprise class)
10. Brij Mohan (boxing—heavy-weight)
11. Hockey team (lost to Pakistan, 0-1)

BRONZE

1. Satvir Singh (athletics—110 metres hurdles)
2. Murli Kuttan (athletics—400 metres)
3. Rattan Singh (athletics—1,500 metres)
4. C. Machiah (boxing—lt. welter-weight)
5. Muluk Singh (boxing—lt. middleweight)
6. Shyam Minotra and Chiradeep Mukherjee (tennis—doubles)

BADMINTON

Thomas Cup: Pakistan and Thailand have been scratched from the Thomas Cup Badminton Tournament as they have joined the new World Badminton Federation—a body parallel to the International Badminton Federation which organises this competition. India will thus play Malaysia in the Asian zone final.

BILLIARDS

National Titles: Michael Ferreira regained the National Billiards title when he defeated S.B. Agarwal, 3317-647, in the final round robin match at Calcutta on December 13. He also set a new world record of 1149. The previous mark of 832 was held by N. Dagley of the U.K.

CRICKET

Cooch-Behar Trophy: North retained the Cooch-Behar Trophy inter-zone schools cricket title with a 15-run victory over West at Madras on January 11.

SCORES

North: 155 and 162

West: 150 and 152

India-West Indies Tests: India went one-up in the series, clinching a three-wicket victory against the West Indies at the Chidambaram Stadium in the fourth Test match. Symbolically it was Indian medium pacer Kapil Dev who put the finishing touches.

SCORES

West Indies (1st innings): 228

India (1st innings): 255

West Indies (2nd innings): 151

India (2nd innings): 125

for 7 wkts.

Third Test at Calcutta: Failing light robbed India of almost a certain victory over West Indies in the third Test match which concluded at Calcutta on January 3. With still 11 balls to go to complete the 20 mandatory overs and the last pair of the visitors at the crease, the umpires upheld the appeal for poor visibility and thus the match ended in a draw.

Sunil Gavaskar, India's skipper, was on a record-breaking spree. He became the first batsman in the World to score centuries in both innings in Test matches thrice. He also earned the distinction of scoring 4000 runs in Tests in the sub-continent, and completing thousand runs in a calendar year for the second time, thus equalling the feat of Ken Barrington of England.

Another feature of the match was a maiden Test century by Dilip Vengsarkar.

SCORES

India: 300 (S. Gavaskar 107; N. Phillip, four for 64) and 361 for one declared (S. Gavas-

kar 182, D. Vengsarkar 157).

West Indies: 327 (B.A. William 111, S. Venkatraghavan, four for 55) and 197 for nine (D.A. Murray 66; K. Ghavri, four for 46).

The second Test between India and West Indies had to be abandoned as a draw at Bangalore on December 20, as no play was possible on the fifth and last day because of violent incidents in the city following the expulsion from Parliament of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

SCORES

West Indies: 437 (S.F.A. Bacchus 96; B.S. Bedi, three for 98) and 200 for eight (A. Kallicharan 83; K. Ghavri, four for 51).

India: 371 (A. Gaekwad 87; I.S. Clarke, five for 126)

England win rubber: England defeated Australia by 93 runs in the fourth Test at Sydney on January 11. Thus, leading by 3-1 in the six-Test series, England claimed the rubber.

SCORES

England: 152 and 346.

Australia: 294 and 111.

Australia won the third Test match against England by 103 runs at Melbourne on January 3.

SCORES

Australia: 258 and 167.

England: 143 and 179.

England defeated Australia by 166 runs in the second Test at Perth on January 20.

SCORES

England: 309 and 208.

Australia: 190 and 161.

HOCKEY

Services Championship: Western Command won the 26th Services Hockey Championship when they defeated Central Command by 3-2 in the final at Jullundur on January 10.

(Contd. on page 486)

Forthcoming Examinations

FRESH OPPORTUNITIES

Indian Institutes of Technology

Admission Examination

May 3-4, 1979

A Joint Entrance Examination comprising four papers in Chemistry, English, Mathematics and Physics will be held on May 3 and 4, 1979 at several centres throughout India to select candidates for admission to the first year class of the 5-year B. Tech, B. Arch, M.S., M.Sc., degree and 4-year B. Pharm. degree courses offered at the six Institutes (Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur and Madras and Institute of Technology—B.H.U., Varanasi).

Age: Applicants must not be over 21 years (26 years for SC/ST) of age on October 1, 1979.

Qualifications: Those having passed or studying in the eleventh class with Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics as separate subjects may apply. I.N.R.A. and F.N. candidates applying for Direct Admission must have secured not lower than the second highest grade each in Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics and the third highest grade in English at the Eleventh Standard Qualifying Public Examination and must not have been present in India for more than a month during January 1, 1979 and May 4, 1979.

Request for the supply of detailed information booklets and Application Form for J.E.E. will be entertained upto February 5, 1979 by the Chairman, Admission Committee, Indian Institute of Technology, Hauz Khas, New Delhi—110 029 on receipt of (i) a self-addressed unstamped envelope of 28×13 cm size superscribed 'J.E.E.' and (ii) Rs. 2/- through Bank Draft, Postal Order payable to "IIT, New Delhi" at the "State Bank of India, IIT, New Delhi Branch"/"Post Office, New Delhi—110 029".

Detailed information booklets and application Form for Direct Admission (excluding nominees of Government of India) will be supplied upto February 5, 1979 only by the Organizing Chairman Admission Committee, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur—208 016, INDIA, on receipt of requests accompanied by (i) a self-addressed unstamped air mail envelope of 28×13 cm size superscribed "Direct Admission" and (ii) U.S. Dollars 5 or equivalent converting currency through Bank Draft/Postal Order payable to "IIT Kanpur" at the "State Bank of India, IIT, Kanpur Branch"/"Post Office, Kanpur—208 016".

Combined Defence Services Examination

1st May, 1979

Age limits: Candidates must have been born after 1st January, 1958 and before 2nd January, 1961 for entry to Indian Military Academy and Naval Academy and

after 1st January, 1957 and before 2nd January, 1961 for entry to Officers' Training School.

Qualifications: Degree of a recognised University or equivalent. Applications from candidates who have appeared or intend to appear at any such examination are acceptable provisionally provided they furnish proof of having passed the examination by 31st December, 1979 in the case of candidates applying for Indian Military Academy and Naval Academy and 4th April 1980 in the case of candidates applying for SSC (NT).

Application forms and full particulars: are available free from Army and Naval Authorities. Forms also obtainable from the Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi—110 011, by remitting Rs. 2/- either by money order or by crossed Indian Postal Orders payable to the Secretary, Union Public Service Commission at New Delhi General Post Office or on cash payment at counter in the Commission's Office from 23rd December, 1978.

Last Date: Completed applications must reach Union Public Service Commission by 12th February, 1979 (26th February, 1979 for candidates residing abroad or in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands or in Lakshadweep).

National Defence Academy Examination

22nd May, 1979

Age Limits: Candidates must have been born after 1st July, 1961 and before 2nd January, 1964.

Qualifications: Higher Secondary Examination or its equivalent. Candidates who have passed the 11th Class Examination under 10+2 pattern of school education are also eligible. Applications from candidates who have appeared or intend to appear at any such examination are acceptable provisionally provided they furnish proof of having passed the examination by 15-12-1979.

Application forms and full particulars: are available free from nearest Recruiting Office, Military Area/Sub-Area Headquarters/Airmen's Selection Centres and NCC Units and Naval Establishments. Forms also obtainable from the Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi—110 011, by remitting Rs. 2/- either by money order or by crossed Indian Postal Orders payable to the Secretary, U.P.S.C. at New Delhi General Post Office or on cash payment at counter in the Commission's Office from 6-1-1979.

Last Date: Completed applications must reach Union Public Service Commission by 26-2-1979 (12-3-1979 for candidates residing abroad or in Andaman & Nicobar Islands or in Lakshadweep).

Current General Knowledge

Abbreviations, Awards

Conferences

Persons

Places

Space Research

Miscellany

ABBREVIATIONS

KNUFNS: Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation.

AWARDS

7th International Film Festival

held in New Delhi

(January 3-17)

Best Feature Film: "Hungarians", directed by Zoltan Fabri awarded *Golden Peacock*.

Best Short Films: shared by "An Encounter with Faces" (India) and "Olympic Games" (Poland). These short films were about children. Awarded *Golden Peacock*.

Best Actor: Shankar Nag in the Indian entry "Ondanondu Kaladalli" (Kannada) directed by Girish Karnad. Awarded *Silver Peacock*.

Best Actress: Savannah Smith for her role as a frightened hostage in the American film "Five Days from Home". Awarded *Silver Peacock*.

Best Director in the Feature Film Category: Billy Wilder, for his film "Fedora" made in West Germany.

Jury's Special Prize for the most promising film: Muzaffar Ali's "Gaman" (Hindi).

Ousmane Sembene from Senegal was Chairman of the jury.

CONFERENCES

World Hindu Conference: A comprehensive 12-year plan for

revival and updatating of Hinduism, with special emphasis on the solution of the Harijan problem and ending of communal riots, was the aim of the three-day World Hindu Conference held on January 25-28.

The conference, organised by the Vishva Hindu Parishad (Bharat), is to devise ways and means which would make it a religious duty of the Hindus to protect others (minorities) and put an end to the communal riots by building up a strong sentiment of communal amity.

PERSONS

Bakhtiar, Dr Shapur: He is a French-educated lawyer chosen by the Shah (of Iran) as Prime Minister to pull the country out of its deepest crisis in 25 years.

Hilton, Conrad: who died on January 4 at Los Angeles was millionaire founder of the international Hilton chain of hotels.

PLACES

Angkor: in Cambodia is famous for ancient temples—a symbol of Cambodian nationalism and pride.

Pnom Penh: is the capital of Cambodia (Kampuchea). It was in the news when on January 7 Radio Hanoi reported that it had been captured by pro-Vietnamese rebels.

Siem Reap, Battambang and Sisophon: These are the three key areas of north-western Cambodia which were in the news

during the recent attacks by Vietnamese troops.

SPACE RESEARCH

Venus-11 and -12: These were the two spacecraft launched by the Soviet Union to probe the planet Venus. Both the spacecraft soft-landed on Venus. Venus-12 soft-landed on December 21, while Venus-11 on December 25, 1978 with their package of scientific instruments.

Despite severe conditions after soft-landing, each spacecraft relayed information back to earth for about two hours.

Rohini-200: It is the first monsoon experimental rocket (MONEX) successfully launched from the Thumba rocket launching station on January 5. The rocket would observe the velocity of wind, cyclone formations and other weather conditions.

The rocket went up to a height of 69 km.

SLV-2: is India's first satellite launch vehicle getting ready at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, in Thumba near Trivandrum, for launching the Rohini satellite-1 from the country's launch Pad in Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

With the launching into orbit of the 42 kg-Rohini satellite one atop the SLV-3 some time in June this year India will become the sixth country to have orbited a satellite with its own launch vehicle. The other satellite launch vehicle manufacturing countries are the U.S.A., the

Soviet Union, France, China and Japan.

The four-stage SLV-3 is currently the most important project of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre. It has been undertaken with the objective of gaining experience in the design, construction and launching of vehicles capable of placing scientific and experimental application satellites in near-earth orbits. It is the forerunner of larger vehicles capable of placing operational application satellites in higher orbits.

Work on the conceptual design of the SLV-3 began in 1968. It was followed by the development of the various systems and the setting up of the various facilities starting in 1973 at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre which also undertook all the research and development and backup support.

The 22.7-metre-long SLV-3 has four stages with an estimated launch weight of 17 tonnes.

The vehicle carries an Instrumentation package to measure its performance and to monitor flight events.

According to a spokesman of the Indian Space Research Organisation, three design reviews and aerodynamic test results have established that the design of the SLV-3 is sound and free from aeroelastic phenomena.

The SLV-3 has 44 major systems, 250 sub-systems and 100,000 components. About 90 per cent of the components are indigenous.

Satellite Stations at Jaipur and Jodhpur: Rajasthan will have satellite earth communication stations at Jaipur and Jodhpur, sites for which have already been chosen.

They will become operative in 1981 when the first Indian communication satellite goes into the orbit.

These two points will be linked to a microwave circuit bringing within range the important towns of Ajmer and Bikaner. The microwave link is expected to be established in 1983-84.

Jaipur and Jodhpur will be linked to the national TV hook-up in the first phase.

The satellite link will help meet the rapidly growing demand for tele-communication facilities in Rajasthan. The demand in the State is growing faster than at most other places, presumably because it has been lagging behind in such facilities.

This may be indicative of the fact that the pace of growth of commerce and industry is picking up.

MISCELLANY

International Year of the Child

The year 1979 has been declared as the International Year of the Child beginning from January 1.

The declaration of 1979 as International Year of the Child is one of the most significant decisions of our time. Children have their special needs and it is necessary that peoples and the Governments recognise those needs and accept the responsibility to satisfy them.

India played a notable role in getting UN General Assembly to pass resolution declaring a Universal Children's Day and the International Year of the Child and became the first country to announce its contribution to UNICEF for this purpose.

India's child population was 230 million according to the 1971 census. "Many of them are afflicted by poverty and are victims of a high rate of malnutrition and its tragic consequence, infant mortality. The Government proposes that during the International Year of the

Child, its endeavours to promote programme of health and development of the child and a happy family life should be strengthened and given more purposeful thrust.

Standard Time Corrected

The nation's standard time has been corrected by National Physical Laboratory and clocks set back by one second for 1979. The correction was made on the mid-night of December 31 and January 1.

The correction is considered essential for studies in astronomy, astrophysics, space physics and for day-to-day working. *There is an 18-second time difference between earth and atomic times.*

The astronomical time is based on the rotation of the earth on its axis. The rotation rate is said to be slowing down owing to various celestial forces acting on the earth. The slowing down rate as compared to atomic time is three thousandth of a second per day or almost a second per year.

This makes it necessary to make a correction by retarding clocks at a pre-assigned time.

The correction, which is based on astronomical observations and on atomic clocks scattered all over the world, is computed and announced by an international organisation based in Paris.

Per Capita Income up by Rs. 34

The net national income in India stood at Rs. 43,395 crores as against Rs. 40,395 crores during the previous year. The quick estimate of national and *per capita* income of the country released by the Central Statistical Organisation says the national income registered an increase of 7.4 per cent in 1977-78 over the previous year.

The increase was only 1.4 per cent in 1975-77. All figures

are computed at constant 1970-71 prices to eliminate the effect of changes in the price structure.

The *per capita* income during 1977-78 at 1970-71 prices stands at Rs. 690 as against Rs. 656 in 1976-77. This shows an increase of 5.2 per cent in 1977-78 in contrast to a decline of 0.6 per cent in 1976-77 over 1975-76.

Japan laps energy from sea

Energy can now be had from the difference in sea water temperature.

Japan has developed a hardware technology to generate electricity by taking advantage of the temperature difference between the warm surface ocean water, and that in the cold depths.

The hardware developed by Japan's comprehensive electronic research institute of the agency of Industrial Science and Technology, and Saga University, has successfully generated about one kilowatt of electricity.

A software technology has also been designed by the Japanese thermal energy technology society for generating one lakh kilowatt of power by utilising the temperature difference of sea water, says "Japan Review", a Japanese consulate publication.

The technology—ocean-temperature-difference-power generation—holds out great hopes for countries on the brink of an energy crisis.

The system requires a temperature difference of at least 20 degrees C. In the water around Japan, suitable areas for the system are found around the Nansai islands including Okinawa.

Scientists say during summer, a power station of this kind can operate for 60 to 70 per cent of the time.

The system works like this:

(1) A liquid medium of low boiling point is heated by the warm water at the sea surface and evaporated. (2) The steam pres-

sure drives the turbine generator. (3) The low temperature of deep water cools and condenses the steam.

Socialism, Capitalism and Human Rights

(Contd. from page 442)

system and by training in new trades (Art. 40 of the 1977 Constitution of the USSR). The Right to Rest and Leisure is assured to all citizens of the Soviet Union; so also the right to health protection, including free medical aid. The Right to Social Security is assured, including social insurance and allowances for disability pensions, etc. The Right to education in Russia is significant since the West has not yet assured it in full measure. Universal compulsory secondary (10-year) education is guaranteed by Article 45. As many as 75 per cent of the students receive stipends. The right to housing also is assured. There is no such right

in the West. Everyone in the U.S.S.R. is provided with shelter, while millions of people in the Third World go without adequate housing facilities. The Russians also, claim they have allowed the "freedom of expression and conscience", but these claims have to be taken with much more than the proverbial pinch of salt.

Thus human rights are guaranteed more effectively in capitalist countries generally than in Socialist and Communist countries which place the State and society above the individual and pay only lip sympathy to the doctrines enunciating the basic rights of human beings.

S P O R T S (Contd. from page 432)

FOOTBALL

Subroto Cup: St. Anthony's School (Shillong) bagged the Subroto Football Cup, the prized trophy for school teams, after a 1-0 victory over Madhyamgram School (Bengal) at New Delhi on December 22.

TENNIS

Davis Cup: After a break of five years, the U.S.A. won the Davis Cup Tennis Tournament beating England, 4-1, in the final at Palm Springs (California) on December 11. This was USA's 25th win, since the inception of the tournament in 1900.

National Championships: True to expectations, Ramesh Krishnan retained his men's singles crown with an easy 6-1, 6-0 win against his cousin Shankar Krishnan in the National Lawn Tennis Champion-

ships at New Delhi on December 17.

HONOURS

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Award: The Government of Punjab conferred the Maharaja Ranjit Singh Award on 18 outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen at Chandigarh on December 30. The list covers performances between January 1, 1974, and November 30, 1978. The Award-winners are:

Kanwal Thakur Singh (badminton), Gurmeet Singh (boxing), Ved Raj (cricket), B.S. Nandi and Manjit Singh (gymnastics), Roopa Saini, Darshan Bhatti, Rajni Nanda, Harpreet Gill, Nishi Sharma, Pushpinder, Prema Saini, Ajinder Kaur and Surinder Sodhi (all hockey), Sushil Kohli (swimming, Vijay Kumar and Kartar Singh) wrestling) and Randhir Singh (shooting).

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of Selected Words used in this Issue)

altruism: the principle of living and acting for the interest of others.

animosity: strong dislike; enmity.

audacious: daring; bold; impudent.

augur: to foretell from signs; to guess or conjecture; to forebode.

avaunt: move on; begone to advance; to depart.

bolster: to hold up.

callous: hardened; unfeeling.

cassock: a long loose robe or outer coat, usually of black silk.

comity: courteousness; civility.

comity of nations: the international courtesy by which effect is given (within limits) to the laws of one state within the territory of another.

congress: the act of meeting together; an assembly of delegates.

condescend: to descend willingly from a superior position; to act graciously to inferiors; to stoop to what is unworthy.

cynic: disinclined to recognise goodness.

demagogue: a leader of the people; a popular and factious orator.

dismal: gloomy; dreary; sorrowful.

doctrinaire: an unpractical theorist, disposed to carry principles to logical but unworkable extremes.

elusive: deceptive.

eschew: to shun; to flee from; to abstain from.

esprit de corps: regard for the honour of the body to which one belongs; loyalty of a member to the whole.

ethnie: concerning nations or races; a national name.

extol: to lift up; to praise highly.

exuberance: quality of being luxuriant; overflowing quantity; redundancy; outbursts.

fulmination: act of thundering; denouncing or detonating; a denunciation.

foist: to bring in by stealth; to insert wrongfully; to pass off (in or into the thing effected).

fraternity: the state of being brethren; a brotherhood; a society formed on a principle of brotherhood; any set of people with something in common.

galore: in abundance.

gendarme: originally man-at-arms; horseman in full armour; a rock-pillar on a mountain; since the French revolution one of a corps of French military police; a similar policeman elsewhere.

gimmick: secret device for performing a trick; a device to catch attention, peculiar to the person adopting it.

grains of salt: with reservation, as of a story that cannot be admitted.

gravel: an assemblage of small rounded stones; small collections of gravelly matter in the kidneys or bladder.

harangue: a loud speech addressed to a multitude; a pompous or wordy address.

hegemony: leadership; preponderant influence, esp. of one state over others.

holocaust: a huge slaughter or destruction of life.

hustings: the principal court of the city of London; formerly the booths where the votes were taken at an election of an M.P., or the platform from which the candidates gave their addresses.

impediment: obstacle; a defect preventing fluent speech.

impundable: not able to be weighed or estimated.

indolence: indisposed to activity; not painful.

indubitable: that cannot be doubted; certain.

inebriate: to make drunk, to intoxicate.

ingrained: deeply fixed; through and through.

inhered: to stick, remain firm in something, to be inherent.

intractable: unmanageable; obstinate.

intuitive: perceived, perceiving, by intuition; received or known by simple inspection.

knave: a false, deceitful fellow.

laissez faire: a general principle of non-interference.

lopsided: ill balanced; heavier, bigger, on one side than the other.

moot: to gauge, dispute; to propose for discussion.

millennium: a thousand years; the thousand years after the second

coming of Christ; a coming golden age.

naught: nothing; wickedness, evil, good for nothing; worthless; bad; immoral; hurtful.

nexus: a bond; a linked group.

pamper: to feed with fine food; to gratify to the full; to over-indulge.

perilous: dangerous.

petulant: showing peevish impatience, irritation, or caprice; forward, impudent in manner.

plank: one of the principles or aims that form the platform or programme of a party.

plenum: a full assembly.

pompous: stately; solemnly consequential.

preclude: to close before hand; to shut out before hand; to hinder by anticipation; to prevent.

protege: one under the protection or patronage of another; a pupil; a ward.

prowl: to keep moving about as if in search of something; to rove in search of prey or plunder.

puritan: a person strictly moral in conduct, or professing a too-strict morality; an advocate of purity in any sense.

rampage: turbulently or aggressively excited behaviour or rushing about—to storm; to rush about wildly.

rational: endowed with reason; agreeable to reason; sane; intelligent; judicious.

repudiate: to reject; to cast off; to disown; to refuse or cease to acknowledge; to disavow.

retrogression: a going backward; a decline in quality or merit.

ridicule: absurdity; derision; mockery—to laugh at; to expose to merriment; to deride; to mock.

sloth: laziness, sluggishness.

snare: a trap; an allurement, temptation, entanglement, moral danger.

squall: to cry out violently; to yell.

taboo: subject to taboo; forbidden; to forbid approach to or use of.

thwart: crosswise; from side to side, frustration; hindrance.

ultra-vires: beyond one's powers.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected etc.

Shapur Bakhtiar: Appointed Prime Minister of Iran.

Heng Samrin: Appointed President of the newly formed pro-Hanoi "Kampuchea National United Front for Salvation".

Wang Jen-chung: Appointed Vice-Premier of China.

Diplomats

Mrs Soonu Kochar: High Commissioner of India to Fiji concurrently accredited High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Nauru with residence in Suva.

Miss C.B. Muthamma: High Commissioner for India to Ghana appointed Ambassador of India to Netherlands.

Y.R. Dhavan: Appointed Ambassador of India to Lebanon and concurrently accredited as High Commissioner of India in Cyprus with residence in Beirut.

Distinguished Visitors

Prof. Muhammad Shamsul Huq: Foreign Minister of Bang-

ladesh.

J.F. Denieu: Foreign Trade Minister of France.

Fathula Jameel: Foreign Minister of Maldives.

Nguyen Duy Trinh: Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam.

Erich Honecker: Chairman of the Council of State of German Democratic Republic.

Willi Stoph: Prime Minister of East Germany.

Sir S. Ramgoolam: Prime Minister of Mauritius.

Died

D.C. Pavate: former Governor of Punjab.

Nawab Nasiruddin Ahmed Khusro Mirza: Last custodian of the Mughal culture.

Rajaram Vinayak Ojarkar: A noted historian.

Col Houari Boumedienne: President of Algeria.

Conrad Hilton: Millionaire founder of the international Hilton chain of hotels.

Mauli Chandra Sharma: An elder statesman and politician.

EVENTS

DECEMBER

21—A gas field of "significance" discovered 120 km. off-shore north-west Bombay.

21—A mammoth Kisan rally held at New Delhi under the leadership of Charan Singh, former Home Minister.

—Chinese authorities confirm that they are willing to welcome the Dalai Lama back in Tibet.

25—Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi accepts in principle a new government arrangement that could sharply reduce his strong powers and eventually make him little more than a figure-head.

26—Mrs Indira Gandhi released from Tihar jail.

—Bangladesh poll put off to February 12.

—Widespread violence in Teheran.

—U.S. approves French Nuclear deal with China.

27—Iran, world's No. 2 petroleum exporter, imposes petrol rationing.

—Bid to avert Bank strike fails.

—Death of Mr Houari Boumedienne, Prime Minister of Algeria. (He was known as a fiery pillar of third world racialism.)

28—Over five lakh bank employees go on a two-day strike to press their demands for wage revision and restoration of bonus rights.

—Foreign collaboration in many

'industries banned.

31—700 killed, 1,000 injured in eastern Iran riots.

JANUARY

1—Colourful start of International Year of the Child.

—Gen Gholam Reza Azhari, Military Prime Minister of Iran, quits.

—Morarji Desai re-affirms India's policy not to permit any nuclear power to examine its installations unless reciprocal facilities are extended to this country to do so.

3—Seventh International Film Festival inaugurated in New Delhi.

—Iran's Parliament accepts the nomination of former opposition politician Shapur Bakhtiar as the country's next Prime Minister.

—Rohini-200, the first monsoon experimental rocket (MONEX) successfully launched from the Thumba rocket launching station.

7—The Kampuchean capital of Pnom Penh (Cambodia) captured by pro-Vietnamese rebels.

8—Cambodian rebels, who seized power in Pnom Penh on January 7 set up a "Kampuchea Revolutionary People's Council" to run the country.

Mr Heng Samrin, president of the pro-Hanoi Kampuchea National United Front for National Salvation (KNUFNS), appointed president of the newly-formed council.

—Britain faces the most serious industrial crisis.

9—Congress (I) scores a resounding victory winning with impressive margin all the three by-elections it contested for Lok Sabha seats in Andhra Pradesh.

—Vietnam recognises the people's revolutionary council set up in Pnom Penh as the legal government of Kampuchea.

10—Sophisticated U.S. arms likely for Pakistan.

16—The Shah of Iran, the symbol of Pahlavi dynasty, whose reign after 37 years on the peacock throne provoked a revolution and bloodshed, leaves Iran.

—Russia vetoes non-aligned motion on Cambodia in U.N.

17—1,000 die in Iran quake.

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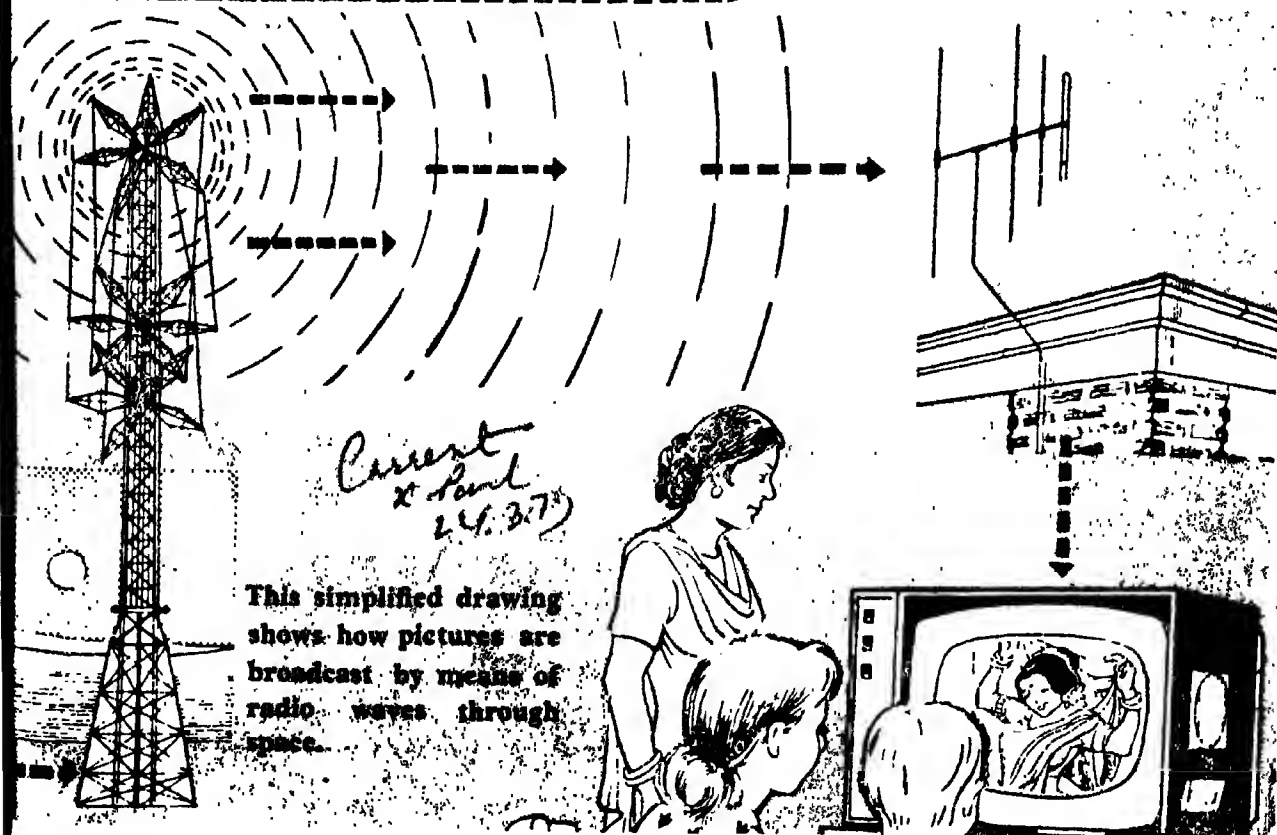
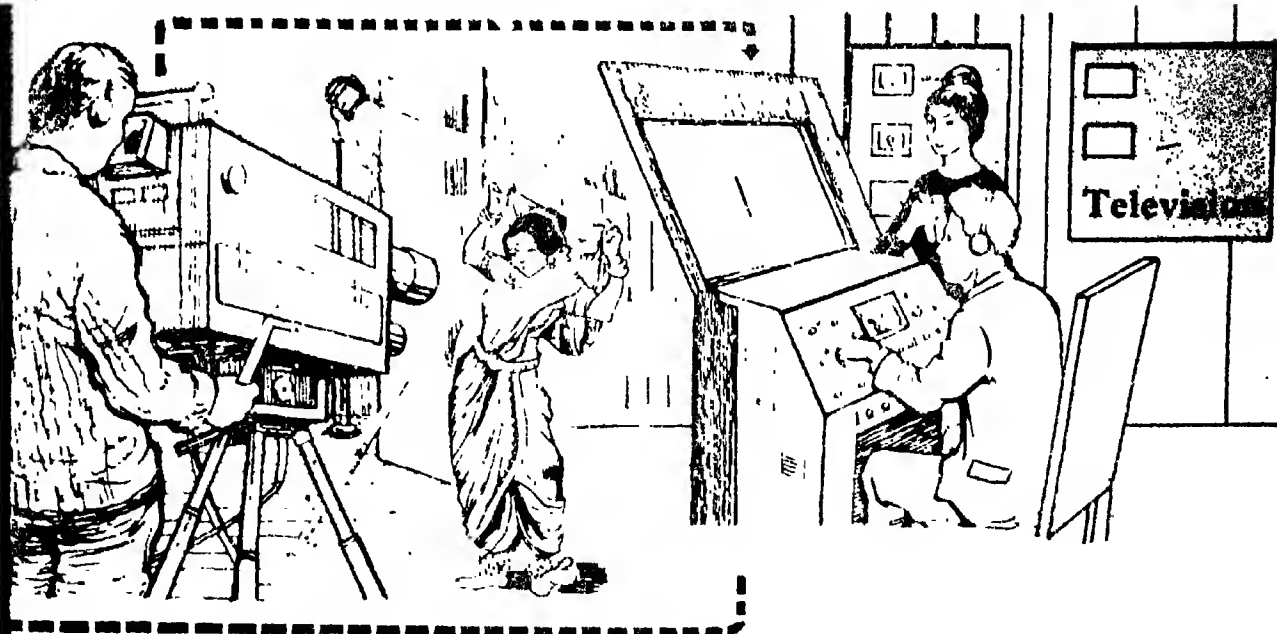
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A Monthly Journal Devoted to

Current Affairs : General Knowledge : Personality

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March 1979

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Letter from the Editor

Threshold of Success

Dear Reader,

The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well; and doing well whatever you do, without a thought of fame, says Longfellow. In all things, success depends upon previous preparation and without such preparation there is sure to be failure, says Emerson. And the secret of success is constancy of purpose, says Benjamin Disraeli.

For attaining success in a career, self-confidence, on the other hand, is as indispensable as air and water are to life. Such confidence comes through knowledge and the right psychological approach. The secret of wide knowledge is constant study, and the right attitudes are developed through the realisation that every one can achieve one's goal in life with earnest application of mental energies.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Editor

Back to Panch Sheel and Bhai-Bhai ?

DURING Jawaharlal Nehru's time the heart-warming doctrines of Panch Sheel and Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai were loudly proclaimed as harbingers of peace and amity in the world. Many other nations adopted these precepts, and Nehru himself became a symbol of peace as embodied in Panch Sheel principles. Then came the heart-break in the shape of China's totally unwarranted aggression in 1962, and the subsequent tensions between India and China. Now the wheel seems to have turned full circle; gestures of cordiality have been made by Chinese leaders to India, and indications have been given that even the complex border dispute can be settled through goodwill. Before Mr Vajpayee arrived in Peking on February 12, Mr Morarji Desai had openly and unequivocally declared that Sino-Indian friendship cannot be restored unless the border issue was settled. Mr Vajpayee's 8-day trip to China was in every sense exploratory—to probe the prospects of a restoration of normal relations on mutually satisfactory terms.

On the very first day of Mr Vajpayee's talks with his Chinese counterpart, Mr Huang Hua, both leaders affirmed that the five principles of peaceful co-existence could still be the basis for a solution of all outstanding problems between the two countries. Since the spirit of goodwill and accommodation was very much in evidence, Mr Vajpayee's visit was not fruitless; rather, it brought India and China closer to a solution of the prolonged deadlock which has lasted for over 15 years. As with the U.S.A., China also reached certain understandings with India on close co-operation in the scientific, technical and cultural spheres. The ground was prepared for certain adjustments on the border which would appease the people of India, for the present at least, and create the impression that China intends to become an ally, not a permanent foe.

China was claiming nearly 50,000 square miles of Indian territory in the Western sector and a few pockets in the middle sector. Since the 1962 aggression they have been in occupation of about 14,500 square miles of our territory—12,000 sq. miles in the Aksai Chin area and 2,500 sq. miles in Pakistan-occupied

Kashmir. The fact that during the last two years diplomatic relations between India and China have been restored at the Ambassador level is not without significance. Another question relates to the future of the Dalai Lama, who has recently been invited by China to return to Tibet. This matter is entirely for the Dalai Lama to decide, though it is clear that the Government cannot ask the Tibetan godman to quit this country.

The Sino-Indian talks in Peking had much in common with the Sino-U.S. talks in Washington early in February. Both the U.S.A. and India are unwilling to strike a relationship with China at the cost of their friendship with Moscow, and this point was made clear by both President Carter and Mr Vajpayee. Again, China continues to be in search for advanced technology and international co-operation; it is opening its doors wide open, for the first time in decades. This open door envisages a new outlook, a new sense of accommodation and a climbdown from the rigidity that marked the Chou regime. The Chinese are now realists, not sticklers for dogmas and their old concepts of self-interest and isolation. Moreover, China wishes to emerge as a friend, guide and counsellor of all the countries in the East to counter, as it were, the growing Soviet influence in this and other regions. India, however, has done well not to become an apologist for amity with Moscow.

It is a distinct gain that the dialogue between the two countries has not been frozen at the present unsatisfactory level; there is cause for hope, not despair. This in itself is a gain; a continuing dialogue opens up the possibilities of a settlement while inflexible stands, reiterated time and again for the sake of prestige, merely ruin the prospects of peace. Mr Vajpayee, however, did well to reiterate India's stand on the basic issues while welcoming the relatively minor gestures of friendship made by a transformed China which now seeks a new and more extensive role in world affairs on a par with that of the other Big Powers, both capitalist and communist. The Chinese are nothing if not pragmatic, and Mr Vajpayee's talks with the Peking leaders have brought this out with a sharpness never experienced before.

Current National Affairs

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Kosygin to Visit India

As a result of Mr Teng's visit to the U.S.A. and the growing ties between China and the U.S.A., and visit of Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, India's External Affairs Minister to China in the middle of February, a feeling of concern is growing in the Soviet Union over the new situation. To seek clarifications on India's bid to befriend China in particular and also to discuss the change in the balance of power, the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Kosygin, has announced a visit to India in the first half of March.

The visit is stated to be in response to India's standing invitation, but the timing of the trip is significant. The last time Indian and Soviet leaders exchanged views through personal discussions was when Mr Desai and Mr Vajpayee visited Moscow in September, 1978.

At that time Mr Vajpayee had already decided to visit China, though later the trip, scheduled for October, had to be called off owing to Mr Vajpayee's illness. But he had assured the Soviet leaders that any normalisation of China-India relations would not be at the cost of India's traditional friendship with the Soviet Union.

Apart from the new cordial trends in the Sino-Indian relations, Mr Kosygin and Mr Desai will also review the progress of co-operation between India and the Soviet Union in the economic field and assess the implementation of various protocols that have been signed between the two countries in recent years.

This, however, is an incidental aim.

Although the composition of the Soviet delegation has not yet been announced, it is likely that it will include the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko.

Apparently, further assurances will be given by the Indian leaders that the Delhi-Moscow understandings will remain unaffected by Mr Vajpayee's understandings with Chinese leaders.

More Arms for Pak; India's Protest

Following the fall of the Shah of Iran, and the fear of growing Soviet influence, the military strategy of the U.S. has changed. More arms for Pakistan is one of the features of this strategy in order to establish an American foothold there once again.

External Affairs Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee warned the United States on February 9 that it will be committing a "folly" if it decides to rearm Pakistan in the wake of recent developments in Iran. "Now they (the U.S.) should know that arms cannot bring about political stability inside the country or economic development", Mr Vajpayee said in an interview. He hoped no attempt would be made to equate India with Pakistan. Every country stood on its footing.

Mr Vajpayee made it clear that though India was eager to normalise relations with China, it would not be done at the cost

of India's friendship with a third country.

On the Kashmir problem he said India was prepared to settle the dispute with Pakistan in the true spirit of the Simla accord. However he cautioned that India would not tolerate any foreign intervention. "So, we have been telling all the countries, and I would like to include China in those countries, that they should leave countries belonging to this sub-region to sort out their differences among themselves—bilaterally." He felt of late there had been some change in China's attitude towards the Kashmir problem. He would like to find out what necessitated the change.

India, he reaffirmed, had no evil designs on any country. "We would like to see a stable and strong Pakistan, but that could be done only if the big powers keep their hands off this region."

Answering a question on the apprehension that India might be dragged into proposed "drive for a Sino-Japanese-U.S. alliance" in Asia, Mr Vajpayee said any attempt to play a new card would not help the cause of peace. India will not be attracted by any new alignments.

A Chinese assurance to Pakistan of support against "foreign aggression and interference" was conveyed recently by Vice-Premier Li Xiannian during his visit to Pakistan. The visit coincided with the work on the last leg of the Karakoram Highway.

The road has great strategic importance, as heavy transport vehicles and even medium-sized tanks will be able to use it. Chinese engineers are working on the highway which will link the railway terminus at Abbotabad (in Pakistan) with Sinkiang province in China. The highway will provide the South-West Chinese provinces with an

outlet to other areas of the world. On completion, the highway will cut considerably the transit time for Chinese equipment to reach Pakistan. General Zia-ul-Haque showed due appreciation of this when he described the highway as a "landmark" in Pakistan-Chinese friendship.

Naxalites' Re-emergence

Reports from several States, notably West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, U.P., Assam and Maharashtra indicate a serious revival of Naxalite activity. The original bases are being strengthened and new ones are being set up quietly but earnestly.

The total strength of the Naxalites of all shades of Marxist-Leninist ideology in the country is around 15,000, according to the latest analysis made on the basis of official data. They publish about 70 periodicals, underground and otherwise, and have over 200 extensions or front organizations—especially among students and teachers in universities, colleges and high schools.

While rural areas continue to be the base of the "extremist elements", the operations are steadily shifting to urban centres also.

Discontent among the agriculturists and rural labour is still the main cause of the growing Naxalite influence in the countryside. The Naxalites have penetrated the urban areas by exploiting the sentiments, born out of hardships, of slum-dwellers and other underprivileged groups of people, students, teachers and industrial workers. The Naxalites are reported to be very active in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, followed by Bihar and Punjab.

In Punjab, rural prosperity, it is stated, has made students

and teachers attached to the ideology. The Lin Piao faction of the C.P.I. (M.L.) has 1,300 members with the largest following in the rural areas of West Bengal, followed by Andhra Pradesh and Bihar and a small pocket in Delhi. The anti-Lin Piao group enrols over 3,500 extremists with the largest base in Kerala, a sizable membership in Bihar and West Bengal and some following in U.P. and Punjab.

The third faction, known as the Central Organizing Committee of the C.P.I. (M.L.) is mainly concentrated in Andhra Pradesh and Punjab with student and youth adherents in West Bengal, Bihar, and Delhi. The strength of their membership is estimated at 1,500.

The original Central Committee of the C.P.I. (M.L.) is perhaps the largest Naxalite organization with a membership of 4,000 with well-organized bases in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar and Punjab. It has gained in recent years new followings in the Maharashtra, Assam, Himachal Pradesh and Tripura.

The fifth faction is called the United Committee of Communist Revolutionaries of India (M.L.) and has a membership of 1,500 with followings in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Punjab.

The Central Government and the States directly affected are closely watching the situation resulting from renewed Naxalite activity.

Virginity Test Scandal

The humiliation to which Indian and other Asian women have been subjected to medical tests to verify their virginity became a big scandal following the disclosures made by a Delhi woman teacher who was examined by a male doctor at

Heathrow airport on February 1. India lodged a strong protest to the British Government on this account. The British Home Secretary, Mrs Merlyn Bees, is investigating allegations that Indian women immigrants have been subjected to intimate medical examinations even in the past, according to the Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan.

The Home office refused to comment on the case of the Indian woman teacher but said gynaecological examination by doctors helped immigration officers to identify women attempting to enter the country illegally.

A former Minister of State for Home, Mr Alex Lyon, has added to the embarrassment of the Home Ministry by disclosing that while he was in office, he knew about such virginity tests being carried out on immigrant women and that he had himself ordered them to be discontinued.

India's Deputy High Commissioner, Mr Alen Nazareth, called on Mr Evan Luard, Minister of State in the Foreign Office, to deliver an *aide-memoire* conveying the High Commission's strong feelings over the humiliating treatment meted out to the Indian woman teacher. Soon after the incident came to their notice, the High Commission conveyed the details over the telephone to Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, the External Affairs Minister, then in Nairobi.

The Indian Workers' Association President, Mr Vishnu Sharma, said the woman had come to Britain to join her fiancé. He said the doctor at Heathrow had told her the test was to check if she was, or had been, pregnant. Mr Sharma called for a protest and said: "This young school teacher told me in tears that she would never have come to Britain if she had known what she was going to

have to go through. 'What is happening is disgusting and shameful.'"

New Source of Energy

A move is afoot in Government circles to tap the country's traditional source of energy by setting up an Animal Energy Development Corporation. This source—animal energy—is regarded as of contemporary appropriateness to India and most other developing countries.

The Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, has also proposed the establishment of an Animal Energy Institute, as an adjunct to the new corporation, to initiate and finance research on and training in the socio-economic aspect of bio-energy utilization.

It is estimated that India's work-animals get some 5,000 million beatings a day. Even death is no deliverance because they are literally hacked and maimed without a stunning device before they die, writhing and wailing. Animal energy is a good example of the disarray met with in all segments of the non-organised sector.

The Institute survey also shows that the 80 million work-animals in the country can generate 40 million h.p. or about 30,000 mw of electrical power which is 4,000 mw more than the installed capacity for electrical energy in the country. It costs Rs. 10,000 to produce one mw of electrical power, as against an investment of Rs. 30,000 crores needed to generate 30,000 mw of power; the investment on work-animals and the associated infrastructure is estimated to be about only Rs. 10,000 crores.

It has been estimated that two-thirds of the energy input in Indian farms comes from animals and of the remaining 20 per cent owes to human excretions and only 10 per cent is

derived from other forms of energy like fossil fuels such as coal and hydel electric power. If the energy input is doubled, the output could be maximised.

In the context of the massive investments being contemplated during the sixth Plan to augment substantially electrical energy for use in rural areas, it is pointed out that animal energy is cheaper than subsidised electricity and, therefore, belongs as much to the core sector as the generation of electricity from fossil fuels or irrigation. Moreover, conditions for the application of diesel or electrical power do not now exist on the vast majority of India's farms.

It is the IIM-B's contention that the magnitude of animal energy available for exploitation and its potential for development have not been recognised by policy-makers, planners, or professionals.

Of the 70 million bullocks, eight million buffaloes (as against China's 50 million), one million horses, one million camels and donkeys and elephants, 65 million bullocks and almost the entire buffalo population is to be found in rural India. Roughly, about 70 million are used in farming operations, especially ploughing. But animals equivalent to 35 million horse-power of work remain idle, which is a colossal waste.

Energy Policy of the Third World

Important recommendations for evolving a "total" energy policy for all nations, especially those of the Third World and other countries which urgently need new development reserves, were made at an international seminar on energy held at Hyderabad from January 30 to February 3 and attended by experts from 18 countries. The session was inaugurated by Mr Morarji Desai.

The seminar felt that energy development strategies must be based on socio-economic objectives and should also take into account planning in other areas, such as agriculture and transportation. The institutional framework of energy planning should be aimed at co-ordination rather than unification of institutions.

A major recommendation was for more efficient ways of utilising non-commercial energy in rural areas. Emphasis should be laid on utilising organic wastes through bio-gas plants as well as developing energy plantation. Besides, supply strategies for energy distribution must ensure a more equitable distribution between the urban and rural areas.

The seminar felt that the concept of energy conservation should be viewed as being applicable to both the developed and developing countries. Pointing out that the resources, both by way of finances and manpower, needed to be increased for the purpose, besides intensifying research and development for introducing improved technologies and equipment for the production process, the seminar stressed the need for a national focus in all major countries promoting research activity.

For a country like India it would be useful to set up an energy conservation board at the national level to co-ordinate conservation measures, particularly in industry. A reliable assessment of the principal sources of demand for energy was a prerequisite for establishing adequate strategies to develop renewable and non-renewable forms of energy.

On non-renewable form of energy supply, the seminar suggested, is an in-depth study of better and more economic utilisation of ash coal by introducing appropriate ways of washing and processing. The study

should also keep in view the real value of coal as a national resource. In view of the importance of education in energy policy and planning, the seminar urged that international energy management seminars be held in the developing as well as the developed countries.

I.M.F.'s "Clean Chit" to India

For the third year in succession the International Monetary Fund (I.M.F.) has given, on the lines of the World Bank's reports, a good chit to India whose economy is described as in good shape. The overall performance of the country in 1978, according to the report released on February 6, has been "satisfactory".

The most reassuring feature has been the agricultural front through which food availability has ceased to be a problem. A team of I.M.F., headed by the Director of the Asian Department, visited New Delhi and Bombay and held discussions with officials of the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India.

Under Article IV of the IMF, every member-State is required to allow IMF officials to visit the country annually and provide a report on the state of the economy to the Executive Board of Directors. The IMF team's recent visit was in compliance with the article.

It is understood from I.M.F. sources that the team, in its report, notes that the food situation remains good despite reduced reserves and that the balance of payments position continues to be good, although there has been a levelling off in family remittances of foreign exchange from foreign-based Indians.

The I.M.F. has found that the balance of payments position is sufficient to offset the deficit in the current account

even in respect of 1978-79. It has noted that India has repaid all its borrowing from I.M.F. in July last. The borrowings from the Special Oil Facility, created in 1975 to bale out countries affected by the oil price increase, have also been cleared. What India still owes is interest charges amounting to 158 million S.D.R.s on previous borrowings. Under a new I.M.F. regulation the charges will have to be paid in foreign currency, while the earlier regulation allowed this to be paid in national currency.

Expansion of Public Sector

In the next five years, Rs. 69,000 crores will be invested in the public sector, which will be one-and-a-quarter times more than the total investment during the last 30 years of Congress rule, according to Union Industry Minister George Fernandes. He announced at Cochin on February 6 that the Janata Party Government also proposed to invest Rs. 30,000 crores in the rural sector in five years. This would be one-and-a-half times more than what was spent for the farmer and the villager in the previous three decades.

Mr Fernandes denied the charge made by the "big business houses" against the public sector. Out of Rs. 25 crores worth of goods produced last year by the Indian industry, Rs. 10 crores worth of goods were produced in the public sector. The Janata Party Government had made a "clear departure" from the past in industrial planning and policy from the city to the village and from the machine, to the extent possible, to the hand. There was no alternative but to develop the khadi, village and rural industries if the problem of unemployment was to be solved.

In the next three years at least 3,000 soap manufacturing units, providing employment to

thousands of people, would spring up all over the country. This would "break" the monopoly of multinationals like Hindustan Lever and the big business houses of Godrej and Tatas in the soap industry. Mr Fernandes called upon the people to come out of what he called the "culture of the large, the culture of five-star hotels" deliberately inculcated and nurtured by Mrs Gandhi and her dynasty. This had to be "demolished" to solve the problems of unemployment and to take the country forward.

Mr Fernandes called upon the young to take to khadi and other goods produced by the village and cottage industries sector. He was persuading the Government to discard steel furniture, carpets and other goods produced by the big industry in Government offices and to substitute them with goods produced in the rural sector.

He urged students to set up Khadi units in every college and university and to involve themselves totally in the task of nation-building.

Mr Fernandes denied the charge that he was a spokesman of the multinationals. He would, however, not hesitate to accept technology from any country for making our manufacture goods more competitive. The Janata Party was committed to demolish the concentration of economic power in a few business houses who abused this power for political purposes.

Industrial Giants get Richer

While Government spokesmen talk ceaselessly of reducing the disparities of wealth and bringing in Socialism, the country's top industrial houses have been getting richer from year to year. No less than 82 "giants" have been identified and they

possess assets exceeding Rs. 20 crores. The largest increase in assets has been in the case of the Tatas, but the Birlas are also at the top. The latest additions to the rich establishments are Mohan Meakin, Seshasayee and Apeejay. The Ram Nath Goenka Group is back at the top after a break of about four years 1972-76.

The assets of 82 largest industrial houses increased by Rs. 3,592.76 crores between 1972 and 1976 and their pre-tax profits by about Rs. 370 crores, according to official figures available up to June, 1978.

The largest increase in assets was by the Tatas—from Rs. 641.93 crores in 1972 to Rs. 980.77 crores in 1976. The group's total turnover was also the highest for 1976—Rs. 1,138.28 crores against Rs. 692.84 crores in 1972.

The assets of the Birla group—consisting of 70 undertakings, against 32 of the Tatas—rose from about Rs. 490 crores to Rs. 1,122 crores.

The following are the assets of some other groups for 1972 and 1976; Mafatlals, Rs. 184 crores and Rs. 257 crores; J.K. Singhania, Rs. 122 crores and Rs. 241 crores; Oil India, Rs. 104 crores and Rs. 202.59 crores; Thapar, Rs. 136 crores and Rs. 202 crores; ICI Rs. 136 crores and Rs. 199 crores; Bangur, Rs. 125 crores and Rs. 195 crores; Scindia, Rs. 107 crores and Rs. 177 crores; Shri Ram, Rs. 120.77 crores and Rs. 174.7 crores; Associated Cement Companies, Rs. 134.36 crores and Rs. 160 crores; Walchand, Rs. 99.47 crores and Rs. 129.42 crores.

The increase in profits before tax was the highest in the case of the Birla group—from Rs. 45.86 crores to Rs. 118.84 crores, followed by Meeneil and Megor, from Rs. 2.8 crores to Rs. 19.36 crores. The Tatas' profits rose

by Rs. 7.2 crores and of the ICI group by Rs. 15.25 crores. The profits of Mafatlal, Shri Ram, Kirloskar and Larsen and Toubro rose by about Rs. 11 crores each.

Strikes and Lock-outs

During the Emergency period of about 19 months, strikes and labour trouble were suppressed, but in 1977 there was a spurt of strikes in industrial and other establishments as a result of the freedom given by the new regime. Labour's pent-up energies found expression in various ways. But when the spurt of strikes was over and the resentment had spent itself, the "fever" came down.

This is proved by the fact that during 1978 the loss of man-days was much less than during the preceding year 1977. Thus the Janata's record on the labour front has not been as bad as has been made out by Congress critics. In 1978 as many as 17.75 million man-days were lost, but in the previous year the corresponding figure was 21.32 million. In 1978, 8.17 million man-days were lost due to strikes and 9.19 million due to lock-outs, against the loss in 1977 of 13.41 million man-days due to strikes and 11.91 million due to lock-outs.

The end of the go-slow by bank employees which at one stage threatened to end in a long strike (from February 2), the averting of the threatened strike by port and dock workers, the calling off of the intended strike by unions in public sector undertakings in June, and the wage settlement after negotiations in the coal industry, are ascribed to the successful intervention of the Union Labour Ministry.

At the level of the Chief Labour Commissioner, settlement was reached in more than

80% of the disputes, both individual and collective. Of the 3,107 disputes, 2,938 cases were successfully resolved. More than 18 strikes were averted and three lock-outs lifted. The establishments where strikes were avoided included the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project, the Heavy Water Plant at Kota, the cement industry, the Khetri copper project and Hindustan Aeronautics.

I.A.S. Age Relaxation

Since the two-year relaxation in the upper age limit granted recently for competing in the Indian Administrative Service and allied examinations would also apply to those who have availed of all the chances permitted in the earlier scheme and did not qualify in any of them, the number of candidates is likely to be much larger in future.

The Union Public Service Commission Chairman disclosed on February 3 that any person could avail himself of three chances till the age of 28, whether or not he had appeared for the examination earlier. The Commission expected about 100,000 applications for the 1979 examination which, for the first time, will include a screening test.

Last year, 33,000 persons had appeared for the examination. The number of candidates would be much higher this year also because of the permission to answer papers in regional languages.

From the preliminary examination, which would comprise objective-type multiple tests, 10 candidates would be selected for every vacancy for competing in the main examination.

This year the number of vacancies would be less as the percentage of promotions from the non-I.A.S. cadres had been

raised to 25 from 20. The new three-stage scheme of I.A.S. examination (the last stage being the interview) would improve the quality of the examination.

To cope with the processing of a large number of applications and planning for holding the various examinations of the UPSC, Mr Kidwai said the Commission work had been computerised. This had helped in speedy selection of candidates. The objective type tests, which had been introduced for all the U.P.S.C. examinations where the number of posts was more than five or the applications were large in number, could be evaluated by computer.

The computer in the UPSC could evaluate 36,000 sheets of objective type questions in one hour. This computer is to be imported and is unlikely to be available for this year's I.A.S. preliminary examination being held in June.

U.G.C. Scheme for Three Exams.

Every now and then a new scheme for educational reform is put forth by educationists, or institutions concerned with education, in a bid to rectify the deficiencies of the existing system, especially that of examinations. In fact, there is a baffling plethora of schemes.

The latest is the one suggested by the University Grants Commission by which only three public examinations need be organised for the entire course of education till the end of the undergraduate stage—at the end of the 10th standard, the 12th standard and the undergraduate stage.

At the end of the elementary stage, there may be a school or district examination, mainly with a view to ensuring maintenance of standards among the institutions. The suggestions were made by the U.G.C. in a recent communication to the

Union Education Ministry while giving its reactions to the new draft national policy on education. The national policy has been under discussion between the Centre and the States for the past one year and would be placed before Parliament in the coming Budget session.

The U.G.C. is of the view that barring the three public examinations proposed, all other examinations should be internal, but there must be periodic evaluation to assess the progress of students. A system of "continuous sessional evaluation" and assessment of the progress and development of each student should be attempted to giving special attention to those students who do not show adequate progress, particularly those from the weaker sections of society.

The commission stresses that the evaluation should inform the teacher about the effectiveness of his instruction and at the same time convey to pupils the results of their learning efforts.

Referring to higher education, the U.G.C. expresses concern at the growing spectre of educated unemployment, unplanned expansion and proliferation of new universities and colleges which, in the context of the rising cost of education, has led to dilution of standards. Unacademic considerations, such as hunt for jobs, rather than acquisition of knowledge drive thousands of young persons to the universities and colleges. The commission holds that it is high time that higher education was radically changed and adapted to the needs of a developing society. Too many examinations create an "examination phobia", resulting in constant mental strain on students, often to no constructive purpose.

Current International Affairs

End of Iran's Monarchy: Switch-over at Last

The prolonged and bloody civil war in Iran seemed to come to an end in the middle of February in the only way it could end, with the decision of Dr Shapur Bakhtiar, the Shah-appointed Prime Minister, to bow to the wishes of the mass leader of the Iranians, Ayatollah Khomeini. On February 11 Dr Bakhtiar resigned his post on finding that the pressure against him was mounting so fast as to prompt the armed forces to withdraw their support from him. The Army officially gave up defence of the Bakhtiar Government when it found that Khomeini was the real ruler. The supporters of Khomeini seized one vital town after another after several days of street fighting and military suppression resulting in a heavy loss of life and widespread destruction.

Inevitably, the nominee of Khomeini, Dr Mehdi Bazargan, became Prime Minister; the Regency Council appointed by the Shah before leaving his country also quit. The Army announced that with all its forces it supported the wishes of the people. This proved to be the decisive factor in resolving the crisis.

The new Prime Minister on February 13 named his Cabinet, and thus most of the leaders whom the Shah had ousted assumed power. Dr Bakhtiar was arrested by the people. Three top Commanders were killed. The Ayatollah became

the virtual President of Iran at whose command all subsequent developments have been taking place. Six Army Generals were also arrested.

The new Government of Dr Bazargan was granted official recognition, within 24 hours of its formation, by India, Pakistan, the U.S.S.R., and then followed recognition by other States when they found that it was the established Government of Iran.

Thus ended the monarchy in Iran after a long, bitter struggle. The Shah's rule has gone with the wind, although he was reported to be still hoping during his stay abroad that conditions would change to enable him to return to the fabulous Peacock Throne.

Earlier, Iran's deep internal crisis assumed a more disconcerting form when Ayatollah Khomeini, the religious leader of the masses, returned home after 15 years' exile in Paris and set up a rival regime, described as the Provisional Government of Iran, to pave the way for the establishment of an Islamic republic. Dr Bakhtiar, the then Prime Minister, threatened execution of all those who questioned the administration's authority. The Ayatollah-named Dr Mehdi Bazargan (71), a leading opponent of the Shah of Iran, to head the Provisional Government.

The appointment of a rival Prime Minister to Dr Bakhtiar, appeared to set the stage for a constitutional showdown. Ayatollah Khomeini repeatedly

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urged the present Government of Dr Bakhtiar to step down.

The Ayatollah asked the people to obey the new "Revolutionary" Government. Dr Bazargan's Government, it was announced, would plan and conduct a national election for members of a Constituent Assembly "to ratify the draft constitution" for an Islamic republic.

Dr Bazargan is a Muslim nationalist and former head of Iran's Oil Industry. Ayatollah Khomeini said the recommendation to appoint Dr Bazargan as Prime Minister had been made by the "Revolutionary Council", a body he said existed, though he had not named it.

Before making the announcement the Ayatollah said he was "religiously entitled" to form the new Government. Opposition to this Government, he warned, would be considered opposition to the Islamic law. Punishment for opposition to the Government, he warned, would be very hard; uprising against it would be considered blasphemy.

The Ayatollah, who enjoys massive support among Iran's 35 million people, called for an end to political bloodshed which has taken several thousand lives in the past year of revolt against the Shah.

He said he was sure that the army, which until then had remained overwhelmingly loyal to the Shah, would not intervene. "If they do, the first punishment would come from Allah, and the second punishment would come from the Islamic criminal Law."

Earlier, Ayatollah Khomeini announced that he would call for a "holy war" if the Bakhtiar Government did not resign. In his first Press conference after his return home from exile the Ayatollah also said that an Iranian National Islamic Council had been formed and its

membership would be announced shortly.

Repeating his call for the resignation of what he described as "the illegal Government" of Dr Shapur Bakhtiar, Ayatollah Khomeini added: "Otherwise, Mr Bakhtiar will have to suffer the consequences of his continued position at the head of his Government".

A referendum would be held to ratify the Government's appointment and that would be followed by elections for a new Parliament. Dr Bakhtiar refused to resign; high-placed Government sources said civil war could erupt within days unless an agreement on a political solution could be reached.

The Ayatollah attacked the U.S.A. and Britain for supporting the Bakhtiar Government and even suggested it might seek the aid of Israeli forces.

Pak Verdict Against Bhutto

By a dramatic and narrow 4-3 verdict, the Pakistan Supreme Court decided on February 6 to confirm the death sentence on deposed Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto for conspiring a political assassination four years ago. The court ordered an effective stay of execution to enable his counsel to petition for a review of the decision.

Chief defence counsel Yahya Bakhtiar told reporters there was no precedent in Pakistan for hanging a person on a split verdict. Pakistan's military President, General Zia-ul-Haque, who overthrew Bhutto in a coup in July 1977, had the power to commute the sentence.

Although hundreds of criminals have been sentenced to hang in recent years in Pakistan, only half a dozen are believed to have been executed. The split in the Supreme Court makes it harder for Army ruler

General Zia to make a final decision on whether Bhutto should hang.

But just before the judges entered the court a bearded man in army uniform called from the back of the court-room: "If they punish Bhutto, I will not leave any General alive." The man was quickly hustled out by the police.

The Government had taken the precaution of arresting, or confining to their homes, several hundred members of Mr Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP). The four Judges of the Pakistan Supreme Court who dismissed Mr Bhutto's appeal against death sentence, in their majority judgement, found no support for the contention that the case was politically motivated. Nor did they agree that it was the result of an "international conspiracy". The Judges also rejected allegations that Mr Bhutto's trial had been "unfair". The Judges accused Mr Bhutto of misusing his power as Prime Minister to attempt to destroy a political opponent and then to stop a proper investigation of the affair.

Those who upheld the verdict and sentence of the Lahore High Court in the Mohammed Ahmed Khan murder case all come from the Punjab province. That was bound to make the final decision of President Zia-ul-Haque on whether Mr Bhutto should hang even more difficult. The President himself comes from Punjab. The army is dominated by Punjabis and it was the Punjab High Court which originally found Mr Bhutto guilty.

The appeal was originally heard by a nine-member Bench, but during the course of the hearing one of the Judges, Mr Justice Qaisar Khan, retired, while the other Judge, Justice Waheeduddin Ahmed, took ill.

The court held that Mr Bhutto used the police to carry

out a political vendetta. It also accused him of a diabolical misuse of the instruments of State power as head of the administration. Instead of safeguarding the life and liberty of the citizens of Pakistan, he set out to destroy a political opponent by using the power of the Federal Security Force.... "The power of the Prime Minister was then used to stifle proper investigation." In the main judgement running to 828 pages, Chief Justice Anwar-ul-Haque wrote: All these facts go to show that there were no extenuating circumstances, in favour of the appellant.

Three of the seven Judges on the Bench disagreed. Judge Dorab Patel, a non-Muslim, said in a separate judgement that the prosecution failed to corroborate the testimony of two police officers who gave evidence about Mr Bhutto's conduct in the affair. He said the evidence was equivocal and described Mr Bhutto's conduct as "reasonably capable of an innocent interpretation".

In the main judgement the court found there was no support for the contention that the case was politically motivated or the result of an international conspiracy, as Mr Bhutto had argued. It also rejected the ex-Premier's main argument that his earlier trial had been biased and unfair.

But the court supported Mr Bhutto in his indignation over references in the earlier court's judgement to him being "a Muslim only in name" who had abused his Constitutional powers to satisfy a personal craving for self-aggrandisement. The Chief Justice ordered the remarks to be erased from the earlier judgement by the High Court.

Dynamic Politician

Western-educated Bhutto shaped the course of Pakistani politics for 10 turbulent years.

But he aroused such varied and intense emotions that there are few things about him which Pakistanis can agree on. One of the Supreme Court Judges considering his fate said: "Whichever way we decide we are bound to split the country."

From his death-cell in Lahore jail, Bhutto wrote his own epitaph: "A poet and a revolutionary—that is what I have been all these years and that is how I shall remain until the last breath is gone from my body." But to Pakistan's military rulers the former Prime Minister was a corrupt megalomaniac who would stop at nothing to strengthen his power.

Mr Bhutto, 51-year-old lawyer, ruled Pakistan for 5½ years before he was overthrown in a military coup on July 5, 1977. Demonstrations by his followers forced the late Field-Marshal Ayub Khan to step down from the Presidency in 1969 and hand over power to Army Chief General Yahya Khan. After Pakistan lost the 1971 war with India and its eastern wing seceded to become Bangladesh, Gen Yahya abdicated in favour of Bhutto whose party had won the Army-supervised elections in West Pakistan. As President until 1973 and then as Premier, Bhutto framed a new constitution and introduced Socialist reforms. He nationalised major industries and trimmed the economic power of what were known as Pakistan's top 22 families, impounding the passports of many wealthy people.

Pakistan's military rulers tried to discredit Bhutto's years in power, accusing him of everything from rigging elections and undermining the judiciary to evading taxes on his air-conditioners. He was arrested 18 months ago on charges of ordering the assassination of a political opponent.

To some he was overbearing and arrogant—a man who would

brook no competition or rival, real or imagined. Civil servants were briefed against wearing good suits, or expensive shoes in his presence in case the sartorially-elegant Bhutto resented the competition.

Few doubt, however, his powers as a politician and statesman. His achievement in ending the 1971 war with India and in arranging the repatriation of 90,000 prisoners to Pakistan was marred only by allegations that his own thirst for power contributed largely to the war breaking out in the first place.

The attitude of Chief General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haque, who holds the power of life and death over him, has been one of contempt and disdain.

General Zia, 54, who appointed himself President last September, described Bhutto as the worst kind of cheat and murderer. A Muslim purist, the General is dedicated to introducing an Islamic fundamentalism. One of his first acts in office was to introduce flogging as a legal punishment.

World Leaders Shocked

The Pakistan Supreme Court's majority judgement upholding the death sentence passed on Bhutto by the Lahore High Court shocked the people and politicians in all parts of the world, even though it had been half-expected after General Zia-ul-Haque's Government took drastic measure, including imprisonment of Begum Nusrat Bhutto, on the eve of the Supreme Court's decision.

Meanwhile, opinion among most political and diplomatic observers was that General Zia was taking Pakistan on a suicidal course and acting without the kind and measure of responsibility that one might associate with those at the helm of a nation's affairs. The general opinion was that the Supreme

Court's decision would be "disastrous for Pakistan".

Mr Bhutto's supporters claimed that the "overwhelming majority of Pakistan was with Mr Bhutto and with the People's Party" and that this led Gen Zia, "in his stupidity", to think that he had no choice. Although Mr Bhutto declared that he would not seek President Zia's mercy, he allowed his lawyer to seek a review of the Supreme Court decision.

Appeals to Gen Zia not to order the execution of Mr Bhutto were made by the world's prominent leaders, including President Carter, the British Prime Minister, the President of India, leaders of China and countless others.

Pak Foreign Policy Trends

The fast-moving international situation—notably the events in Iran, the Far East and the change in the policies of the Big Powers—is likely to bring about significant changes in Pakistan's foreign policy.

According to well-informed sources, the new policy will be carefully formulated after taking into consideration "the anti-Islamic stance of some Big Powers", and this policy would aim at further strengthening relations with Muslim and neighbouring countries.

The new changes will be made in consultation with the Pakistan National Alliance, which, during a recent meeting with Gen Zia-ul-Haque, had insisted that the alliance should be consulted in the formulation of the foreign policy.

The PNA chief, Maulana Mufti Mahmud, stated in Rawalpindi recently that a high level meeting might be held in Islamabad very soon between the Alliance and the Government officials to discuss the

foreign policy in detail. Maulana Mufti was of the view that Pakistan would maintain good relations with all its neighbours.

Pakistan's foreign policy has been the subject of much debate recently in the wake of developments in Afghanistan and Iran. The Muslim League chief (Chatha group) Choudhry Mohammad Hussain, said in Lahore recently that Pakistan's position in "this region" had become stable after the Sino-U.S. agreement. It is for the Government to take full advantage of this, it is felt. He criticised "those so-called intellectuals who try to demoralise us by talking of the Soviet influence and saying that India is 10 times greater than Pakistan."

The Musawwat Party has been demanding that Pakistan should improve its relations with the Soviet Union. Recently, some vocal critics pointed out that since the 1971 war, India had become 10 times stronger than Pakistan and had made all-round progress, while Pakistan had failed in every field. Therefore, India "is more powerful than we are and then we have powers like China and the Soviet Union for our neighbours."

In the meantime, Pakistan has begun bearing the brunt of the rebels' activities against Mr Nur Mohammad Tarakki's Government in Afghanistan. This brunt is in the form of refugee influx into Pakistan's Frontier Province and Baluchistan. The number of such refugees is estimated between 11,000 and 150,000.

The National Democratic Party leader, Begum Wali Khan, knows only about 11,000, while the Muslim League (Qayyum group) chief, Khan Abdul Qayyum Khan, claims that the number is 150,000. President Zia-ul-Haque estimates it to be 20,000.

Khan Qayyum has demanded that the United Nations be informed of this refugee problem as it was causing a strain on Pakistan's economy. He said some refugees had come even from Iran.

U.S. and China becomes Allies

An event of far-reaching importance took place early this year when the U.S.A. and China ended three decades of hostility and mutual tensions and became allies instead of bitter adversaries. From January 1, 1979, both these Big Powers established diplomatic relations which will be raised to the level of full-scale ambassadors from March.

The change in the balance of power in the world has thus undergone a significant change. China has become a Western ally; a Communist giant has joined hands with the world's leading capitalist country. The Soviet Union thus stands isolated and virtually encircled by the West and the East, though most of the neutral countries still do not take sides.

The new Sino-U.S. ties were cemented by the visit of China's senior Vice-Premier, Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, to the U.S.A. from January 28 to February 6. He held frank talks with President Carter, as a result of which several agreements were signed. But at the same time certain points of difference stood out and China did not yield on certain issues of principle. While China refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty despite U.S. pressure, the U.S.A., on its part, did not accept China's proposal to form a grand global anti-Soviet front, thus keeping out of the bitter ideological and strategic war between the two Communist giants, the Soviet Union and China.

On February 1, President Carter and Vice-Premier Teng,

declaring that "their honeymoon will continue" signed scientific and cultural exchange agreements, marking the start of a new era of co-operation between the U.S.A. and China.

Shortly before the signing ceremony, Mr Teng blasted the Soviet Union in a nationally televised interview as "the main hotbed of war" in the world today. Mr Teng urged the U.S.A., Japan, Western Europe and the Third World to join China in "solid, down-to-earth united action" to thwart Soviet aggression around the globe.

Both Mr Carter and Mr Teng hailed the signing of the agreements as a historic beginning in the new relationship between their two countries after 30 years of mutual suspicion and downright hostility.

Mr Carter, who says he is keen on pursuing a balanced course in U.S. relations with the Soviet Union as well as China, said about his talks with Mr Teng that "we have agreed to consult regularly on matters of common strategic interest". Obviously, the security concerns of the U.S.A. do not fully coincide with those of China, nor does China share our responsibilities. But a strong and secure China which contributes constructively to world affairs is in our interest, and a globally engaged, confident and strong U.S.A. is in China's interest.

Provisions under the Science and Technology agreement cover the construction in China of a 50-billion volt atomic particle accelerator costing \$ 100 million to \$ 200 million, and a \$ 500 million space satellite package that includes ground stations. The National Aeronautical Space Administration (NASA) will launch the satellite which China intends to use for telephone and colour television transmissions and nationally televised school classes.

Under the second agreement, China will open Consulates in San Francisco and Houston, and the U.S.A. will have Consulates in Shanghai and Canton. These will be in addition to the Embassies opening in Peking and Washington around March. In addition, the two countries agreed to ease the reunion of families and visits by dual nationals and to grant access by diplomats to citizens under arrest in the other country.

The cultural agreement provides for exchanges in the arts, journalism, sports and other fields. It also provides for exchanges of books, magazines, films, recordings and exhibitions. Among the five nuclear Powers—the U.S.A., Russia, Britain, France and China—France and China have not signed the N.P.T. According to an official U.S. spokesman, Mr Teng pointed out that China could not be expected to give up its nuclear tests when both Washington and Moscow were still continuing theirs. China's refusal to sign the N.P.T., however, does not disqualify it from receiving supplies of nuclear material from the West. France, with the approval of the U.S. Administration, has agreed to sell two nuclear power plants to Peking.

Mr Teng is reported to have told U.S. Senators during his visit that China wanted a peaceful solution to the Taiwan issue but "cannot commit herself not to resort to force."

Chinese Vice-Premier assured the U.S. Congress that, despite its apprehensions, China now has no intention of using either military or economic pressure to re-absorb the old Nationalist Chinese regime on the island of Taiwan. But, he created a new worry: China is so concerned about Hanoi's aggressive behaviour on her southern border that she may

have to use force there. And, despite concern from the U.S. legislators, Mr Teng would not give any commitment that China would halt her nuclear testing in the atmosphere. He explained that China had to catch up with other leading nuclear Powers.

The Chinese leader accused Moscow of backing Vietnam's "massive armed aggression" against Cambodia and added that the Soviets are "the war-mongers who are daily propagating an illusion of peace and detente." Teng later said he did not rule out the possibility of using force against Taiwan.

Mr Teng also declared: "We will permit the present system to remain unchanged. We will allow the local Government of Taiwan to maintain people-to-people relations with other people, like Japan and the U.S.A."

With this policy China believes she can achieve peaceful reunification. "We Chinese have patience", he said.

Hegemony Explained

The U.S.A. and China said in a joint communique on February 2 they were determined to contribute to international peace, security and national independence. President Carter and the Chinese Vice-Premier, Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, also reaffirmed opposition to efforts by any country or group of countries to establish hegemony or domination over others.

The word "hegemony" is used by China in its attacks on the Soviet Union. But U.S. officials said inclusion of the word "hegemony" in the document did not signify any change in U.S. policy towards the Soviet Union, even though the Russians objected to its use.

The communique did not disclose details of the agreement or disagreements, but one difference almost certainly applied to policy towards the Soviet

Union. President Carter made it clear in his remarks that the U.S.A. intended in work for improved relations with Moscow, despite Mr Teng's repeated calls for unity to curb "the Polar bear"—the Soviet Union.

In Moscow Mr Brezhnev, reacting to China's attacks, said the policy of the present Chinese leaders was playing the game of the imperialist forces. Far from contributing to a halt in the arms race, Peking leaders were helping imperialist forces in the hope that China can obtain the support of the militarist forces and increase its war potential, in the service of hegemonist ideas and the major powers.

In a message to delegates to a meeting of the World Peace Council in East Berlin, Mr Brezhnev said the detente process had substantially slowed down.

Yet More Nuclear Tests

The hypocrisy of the world Powers implicit in talking of universalisation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and discouraging other nations from holding nuclear tests has again been confirmed by the series of explosions conducted by the Soviet Union. It detonated a nuclear underground explosion on February 1 in eastern Kazakhstan, the Swedish Hagfors Observatory reported.

The explosion registered 6.4 on the Richter scale. Russia last year carried out a record number of underground nuclear tests, according to the Swedish Defence Research Centre. Twenty-seven nuclear explosions were registered at its observatory in Hagfors, central Sweden, where nuclear tests and natural earth tremors are monitored. Twenty of them were at the traditional Soviet tests sites in Kazakhstan and the Arctic Ocean, the Centre reported.

Five other explosions, made in Central Siberia and the Urals, could be linked with programmes for use of nuclear energy for civilian projects. Two others, recorded north of the Caspian Sea, "could have civilian objectives but could equally indicate that the Soviet Union is now using a new nuclear military test zone", the Centre said.

Both Russians and Americans, who last year carried out 10 underground nuclear tests, seemed to have respected the 150 kiloton limit for such explosions laid down by the 1974 agreement.

Consistent with its affirmed policy of seeking a moratorium on nuclear tests, India asked the U.S.A., the Soviet Union and Britain to cancel their programmes for testing nuclear weapons. The demand was made at a 40-nation Geneva Disarmament Committee meeting on February 9 when the Indian delegate pointed out that the Big Powers did not need any such tests.

He also said that an immediate announcement of a moratorium on tests would act as a great encouragement to the work of the Disarmament Committee and also bring a new hope to the peace-loving world which was feeling greatly disturbed at the growing trend for fresh armaments.

India and other peaceful countries were feeling disappointed at the slow pace of negotiations on the subject and sought an early test ban treaty.

France has lately joined the Committee, though China's seat is still vacant.

Black P.M. for Rhodesia

In pursuance of an agreement reached in March, 1978, between Mr Ian Smith, Prime Minister of Rhodesia, and three moderate leaders of the Rhodesian Blacks, a referendum of

the white electorate of that country was held on January 31 on the issue of the new Constitution proposed by the ruling transition coalition. The referendum showed, as expected, over 55 per cent of the whites in favour of the proposed black-led Government. Under the arrangement, Mr Smith will be replaced by a black Prime Minister after the elections proposed for April 20 next.

He indicated that he would not quit politics until a settlement was "signed and sealed", apparently meaning western recognition and lifting of sanctions.

Asked if he was saddened by the end of an era of 88 years of white supremacy in Rhodesia, Mr Smith said: "No, I am pleased. This nation keeps its cool while the rest of the world seems to have lost its head".

Mr Smith once predicted that majority rule would never come to Rhodesia in his lifetime. But during the referendum campaign he told whites that Rhodesia was too weak to resist black rule any more.

Mr Smith declared that Britain and the U.S.A. were now morally bound to recognize the black-dominated Government to be chosen through universal suffrage elections. Mr Smith, due to be replaced by a black Prime Minister said he was trying to "work himself out of a job". But he conceded that Western recognition was far from certain. Bishop Abel Muzorewa, considered the likeliest candidate, declared his "love, respect and gratitude" to the white voters he previously denounced as selfish settlers determined to cling to power and privilege at the expense of the 6.8 million black majority.

The Constitution, approved by the white electorate in a referendum, provides for universal suffrage elections to a black-dominated parliament. Under

the plan, the white minority reserves a quarter of the seats in Parliament and the Cabinet, and retains control over the military, judiciary and civil service for five years.

Last March Mr Smith devised the internal settlement formula to set up a transitional Government in which the whites and blacks ostensibly share power. The internal settlement formula was a handy formula to forestall the Anglo-American initiatives on behalf of black majority rule. After his American odyssey, however, Mr Smith discovered that his plan did not carry conviction in the Western capitals without whose goodwill the Salisbury regime could not achieve credibility.

Apart from changing the country's name to Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, the new Constitution does not give anything away. There are entrenched clauses in it to perpetuate white control over the Army, the civil service and the judiciary for five years. But international opinion which Mr Smith wants to influence is unlikely to be impressed. For one thing, the blacks have had no part in either writing or approving the Constitution; it has simply been thrust on them. For another, the provisions to ensure white control over all the levers of State power smack of a deceptive plan to buy time.

U.K. and U.S. Concern

Britain and the United States on February 4 voiced concern that the situation in Rhodesia was deteriorating seriously and said they saw no immediate prospect for a peaceful settlement. Their assessment of Rhodesia's uneasy future was made in a joint statement issued after a meeting between the British Foreign Secretary, Dr David Owen, and the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr Cyrus Vance. They called on all the parties in the Rhodesia dispute

to back the stalled Anglo-American Peace Plan which calls for the United Nations to supervise elections following a ceasefire. "The U.S. and British Governments remain fully committed to continue their efforts to bring about a peaceful transition to independence and majority rule", the statement said.

The United States and Britain want the black guerilla forces and the Rhodesian Transitional Government to work out a peaceful settlement, but the Rhodesian Premier, Mr Ian Smith, has tried to promote his own internal settlement with the black moderates.

The Anglo-American plan foresees a brief transition period under a neutral administration and associates five of Rhodesia's black neighbours with the changeover. But it has so far won little support from either side.

The State Department spokesman, Mr Hodding Carter, said this week that the U.S. Government regarded the Anglo-American plan as the best solution, but added: "No one seems to be backing it."

Distribution of World's Wealth

Fresh light on the distribution of world income has been thrown by the data made available by the 1978 World Bank Atlas, just published. It appears that the economic recovery of 1976 tapered off during 1977 in both industrialised and developing countries, with the exception of countries in South and East Asia. Recovery continues quite strongly in the two areas of Asia.

Data on population and GNP *per capita* shows that the middle-income developing countries lost much of the momentum they gained in 1976 after the 1974-75 recession.

"There have been no significant changes in the global distribution of income during 1975-76", the Atlas reported. In 1977, the developing countries (excluding capital-surplus oil exporters) with 53 per cent of the world population accounted for only 17 per cent of world GNP, whereas the industrialised countries commanded over 63 per cent of world GNP with only 17 per cent of the world's population.

The United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Qatar continued to be the world's richest countries during 1976 with a *per capita* GNP of more than \$ 10,000. Switzerland, Sweden, Canada, the United States, Norway, Denmark and West Germany followed, in that order.

About a quarter of the world's population lived in poor countries with less than 200 dollars *per capita* income in 1976. Their average GNP *per capita* was only \$ 140. Another one-third of the population fared a little better with an average *per capita* income of \$ 350. In contrast, approximately one-seventh of the total population belonging to rich countries had an average *per capita* income of \$ 7,070.

About 24 per cent of the world's inhabitants were in countries with a population growth rate of less than one per cent annually and another 32 per cent were in countries with population growth rates between one per cent and two per cent. But 22 per cent of the population was in 79 countries where it was growing at 2.5 per cent or more.

Crisis in Iran: Lessons for East and West

The 20th century's most powerful monarch, Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, who ruled Iran with an iron hand for about four decades and seemed well-entrenched in absolute power almost for ever, has fallen at last. Kings and Emperors all have a fall sooner or later, but the tragedy of the Shahenshah is unique in many ways; it has left behind lessons for potential dictators, advocates of democracy, sticklers for despotic rule, religious leaders who believe in theocracy and countless others.

Do the developments in Iran signify a revival of Islam or are they to be interpreted, as usual, as the inevitable victory of democracy over dictatorship, of the people over a power-obsessed ruler, even though he was modern, progressive, far-sighted and Westernised his country, armed it to the teeth, strove to make it the strongest political entity in the Middle East and entertained visions of making Iran a big Power?

Like many other despots the Shahenshah tried his best to ensure the support of the army, and the Generals backed him to the last, but a stage came when both the conservatives and the leftists started opposing him bitterly. The rioting, the arson, and the endless clashes and the widespread destruction made Teheran a heap of ruins.

A series of internal crisis—the cumulative effect of the basic contradictions in that country, with Mullahs and religious fanatics on one side insisting on establishing Iran an Islamic republic in the true sense,

and youthful elements equally determined to end autocratic rule and make Iran democratic in accordance with the liberal winds blowing all over the world, staging demonstrations and carrying their battle to the streets.

The autocratic monarch lost the support of millions of people by his ruthless suppression of the basic liberties, disallowing dissidence of any kind and dinning into the people's ears that he was their sole saviour constantly seeking to make Iran a leading industrial and military power. By pursuing a subtle and well-devised strategy, based on the natural resources of Iran, particularly the immense oil wealth which he exploited as a political weapon of the highest order, the Shah was able to win over the support of the Western Powers, especially the U.S.A. which felt convinced that in the Shah of Iran it had a stooge, an ally and a counter-weapon to the Soviet Union's growing influence in Africa and Asia. The USA consequently thought its vital interest lay in wholeheartedly backing the Shah, giving him more and more military weapons of war to enable it to become the "regional policeman" to safeguard Western interests, including the maintenance of vital routes through the Persian Gulf and even the Mediterranean. It was the USA which brought the Shah back to the fabulous Peacock throne of Iran in 1953, after the emergence of the highly popular and powerful Mossadeq, in many ways the best Prime Minister Iran has had so far.

By stages the Shah concentrated all power in his own hands, though he also established institutions which had a democratic nomenclature to create the impression that Iran was gradually becoming democratic; actually, that was an illusion, for the Shah remained the Shah, the sole arbiter and autocrat, the supreme commander and the symbol of power and prosperity. He never had any doubt that he was destined to re-establish the power, influence and glory of the famed Pahlavi dynasty; and he also felt convinced that the people would back him fully for ever and ever. As for "inconvenient" people who demanded reforms and basic rights, he put them in jail one by one and established his mastery.

Thus, steadily but surely, two strong, though contradictory, forces have grown in Iran to seal the fate of the Shah; on one side the religious fanatics, the Mullahs determined to prevent the Shah from modernising Iran (there were numerous blue-jeaned girls and boys in the streets) and, in effect, taking it back to strict conservatism as dictated by the tenets of Islam, and, on the other, the generality of people clamouring for fundamental rights and more opportunities to share the prosperity that the oil bonanza of 1973 had brought, almost with a dazzling flash.

In many ways the oil revolution of 1973 was a landmark in Iran's modern history; it contained the seeds of unprecedented prosperity to the world's No. 2 oil producer, but it also

sowed the seeds of discord since it led to more ambition, fabulous incomes, massive orders for sophisticated armaments, from the USA in particular, to an all-out bid to make Teheran the main financial centre of West Asia bridging the West and the East. The USA was throughout an active collaborator in the Shah's overambitious plans for glory, and it benefited greatly through the massive orders received from the Shah. The massive petro-dollars thus flowed back to the USA through the huge orders for supplies, both civil and military, placed by the Shah. The USA not only shared Iran's prosperity through the greater business it transacted with Iran but also comforted itself politically and strategically with the thought—by and large justified, at least for some years—that it was successfully preventing Soviet Communism from acquiring a foothold in Iran, even though the Soviet Union has a 3,000-km border with Iran and is the immediate northern neighbour ever ready to intervene in a country whose strategic position was vital to its own defences and to its designs for a still larger sphere of influence against the Western Powers. Iran's military budget jumped by leaps and bounds (mostly benefiting the U.S. armaments industry); in fact, in 1976-77 its military expenditure rose to over 45 per cent of its huge oil revenue.

But the Shah was no novice in international diplomacy. Even while ensuring the "lasting friendship of the Americans", he took care to keep on the right side of the Russians also, for he knew that it would be folly on his part to offend the Communist giant, his immediate and powerful neighbour. So he entered into some economic agreements with the U.S.S.R., exchanging Iranian gas for a steel mill which Russia promised to build in Iran. May be he

was anxious to demonstrate that he was not an American puppet, like the regimes in certain Far Eastern countries.

The strategy paid dividends for quite some time, but then came the slide-down and the inevitable fall which is the fate of the mighty throughout human history. Step by step, his friends became his enemies, his opponents grew in strength and numbers, had strange bed-fellows, posed a serious challenge which the arrogant Shah vainly sought to meet first through martial law and military dominance, then through the installation in nominal power of civilian leaders (they resigned one by one, signifying the failure of the Shah's political strategy to keep himself in power and to tide over the furious storm). President Carter also abandoned him, although at one time the U.S. President had declared that the U.S. regarded itself as bound for ever with the Shah's stay at the top and as the supreme monarch without whom there would be chaos in that country.

When the vast majority of the Iranian people rose in revolt, for different reasons, President Carter openly advised the Shah to quit the country so as to end the civil war in his country. On January 16 the Shah left the country, ostensibly for "a vacation", but it is generally believed that he will never return to his kingdom. His exit has taken the heat out of the Iranian crisis, at least for the moment. The Regency Council the Shah established before his departure was a virtual non-starter. The civilian Government headed by his nominee, Dr Bakhtiar, has been finding it difficult to control the situation, and there is the mass leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, the Shah's bitter opponent and the symbol of Iran's revolution, who made Paris his headquarters and whose entry into Iran the Bakhtiar Government, in collaboration with the army,

he sought to prevent. Khomeini is, however, determined to establish an Islamic republic in Iran.

The Iranian crisis carries several lessons for the Big Powers and also for India. First, the West miscalculated once again the hold of the monarch over his country and his people; it also indicates that economic exploitation of an oil-rich country cannot become a permanent phenomenon and that playing a gambol with politics in a foreign land (as was the case in Vietnam and Cambodia) does not pay in the long run. A big Power must be careful and cautious in choosing both allies and stooges.

The impact of the Iranian crisis on India has been quite serious both economically and politically. Economically, the major interruption in the supply of Iranian oil has caused deep concern. India's dependence on other oil producers (many of them are not so obliging as the Shah offered to be). Besides, many of the economic projects which were being pursued in India, like the Kudremukh iron ore project, the Rajasthan canal and others, are now in jeopardy and the heavy investment made therein might go waste at least for some time; the interruption in Iranian funds is also likely to cause considerable unemployment among the thousands of people engaged in these ambitious projects. The U.S.A. may find one of its main oil suppliers lost. As for Russia, Communism and Islam do not go well together. Iran may not, therefore, fall in the Soviet orbit.

Politically also, India may suffer a setback, in two ways. The establishment of another Islamic republic in Iran (which is likely to co-operate more with Islamic republic in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia) will mean a blow to the cause of democracy, even as it will mean
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S.A.L.T. Turns Bitter

It is a sign of duplicity and double talks, which has become a fashion of the times, that even while envisaging an early agreement on the limitation of strategic arms, the world's Big Power strive for advantages over the other and openly assert that the new pact will not be based on trust. In his annual State of the Union address to the U.S. Congress on January 24, 1979, President Carter declared that he would not sign any fresh S.A.L.T. agreement unless it preserved America's overwhelming nuclear strength; in fact, he pledged that S.A.L.T.-II would "enhance our national security." He was, however, hopeful of reaching an agreement on arms limitation with the Soviet Union. On the other hand, even while sparing no effort to ensure Soviet military advantage over the U.S.A., President Leonid Brezhnev, in an interview to *Times* magazine on January 16, 1979, stated that a new pact should be round the corner "if there was respect for the principles of equality and equal security." S.A.L.T.-II has, in effect, become a political football.

The two powers hoped to sign a new pact by mid-December, 1978, but certain new developments made that virtually impossible. On December 17, the USA and China announced their decision to resume diplomatic relations, after a long break, with effect from January 1, 1979. Formal resumption of relations was indeed effected from that date, though Ambassadors will be exchanged from March 1. President Carter admitted that the final agreement

on S.A.L.T.-II might have been held up by the Sino-American diplomatic accord. The inter-relationship between the two events is quite clear. On finding that Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, a prominent Chinese leader, would be going to the U.S.A. soon, President Brezhnev who was expected to visit Washington about the middle of January, postponed his trip. Apparently, he wanted to see what was the material result of Mr Teng's visit. He must have known that Mr Teng's sojourn would attract much greater attention than his own; hence it was diplomatically necessary that he should wait. The "man of the year" is Teng, not Brezhnev, and the dramatic suddenness with which U.S.-China ties were resumed is widely regarded as a setback to U.S.-Soviet Union relations, and a blow to Soviet designs and political strategy.

President Brezhnev, on his part, has stressed the complications of the relationship by saying that he is unable to understand Washington's desire to seek advantages for itself to the disadvantages of others. He mentioned the fact that the Soviet Union is regarded as an adversary in the U.S.A. In such a context, "it is difficult to work for systematically deepening and expanding area of co-operation." Such an approach, he has warned, "makes it agonisingly long and complicated for new agreements to be born, and the relations as a whole mark time, or reverse their course." This makes it clear that the Soviet Union is now having second thoughts on the commitments it had earlier decided

to make in respect of armaments. The U.S.A. is keen to sign an agreement, of course on its own terms, while the Soviet Union is now going slow. According to indications, there will be fresh and hard bargaining on several vital aspects of the proposed treaty.

It would be useful to examine the issues which have prevented an agreement all these years, despite several rounds of negotiations between spokesmen of the two countries, in Geneva, Moscow and Washington. First, there is the question of the duration of the treaty protocol, that is, the period during which the Russians will be required to complete dismantling of some of their existing missiles to reduce the total to the level permitted by the treaty provisions. Secondly, there is the question of fixing the maximum number of cruise missiles which can be carried by an American aircraft. Thirdly, there is the question of computing the range of a Cruise missile. Fourthly, details have to be settled about the production, refuelling and basing of the Soviet Backfire bombers. These would seem to be relatively unimportant issues, but past experience has shown that an adamant stand on even such questions can indefinitely delay an agreement, especially when mutual trust is lacking. The basic difficulty is that neither Power is willing to foreclose its options in respect of an increase in strategic armaments, in the development of new weapons and in circumventing the limitations imposed by a treaty technically or otherwise. No

wonder there have been frequent discussions on whether the development and expansion of a particular type of missile has been in effect a violation of the S.A.L.T. provisions. Violations there have indeed been, both in spirit and in letter. S.A.L.T., consequently, has been reduced to a pact only for the record, without any genuine spirit of limitation of armaments. The suspicion of each other's intentions is also apparent from the persistent talk of devices and counter-devices to verify the actual number and location of missiles and other weapons. Thus, while open inspection is not agreed upon for all types of military preparations and the development of sophisticated equipment, assurances are being held out by the leaders of both Powers to their people that adequate devices exist for verification of the other's military capabilities. For instance, President Carter's message to the Congress stated explicitly: "We have very sophisticated proven means—including our satellites—to determine for ourselves whether the Soviet Union is meeting its treaty obligations."

He has also been firm on the American nuclear deterrent. The problem of certification of nuclear weapons has often posed difficulties and obstacles. Lately, the problem has become more complex by the threatened loss of secret American installations in Iran as a result of the political upheaval in that strife-torn country. But President Carter has again assured his countrymen that the American nuclear deterrent will always remain strong.

Typical of the suspicions, challenges and counter-challenges even while holding out hopes of an early S.A.L.T. accord is the example given by President Carter, apparently for Soviet consumption. "Just one of the U.S.A.'s relatively invulnerable Poseidon submarines—less than

two per cent of our total nuclear force carries enough warheads to destroy every large and medium-sized city in the Soviet Union. Our deterrent is overwhelming, and I will sign no agreement unless our deterrent force will remain overwhelming."

And in the same breath President Carter posed as a peacemaker by stating that "in the year 1979 nothing is more important than that the people of the USA and the U.S. Congress resolve to continue on the path of nuclear arms control and peace". It is such double talk of peace and war, almost simultaneously, that baffles the world's pacifists and exposes the distinct element of hypocrisy in the much-publicised negotiations for restrictions on armaments and the endless and fruitless rounds of talks in Geneva on disarmament. When even limitation is not real, what prospects can there be for disarmament?

Yet another example of this duplicity comes through the high-sounding declarations that "the USA has no intention to becoming the world's policeman", even though he made it a point to stress that the USA has every intention to play an activist role in foreign affairs. The USA has promised to anticipate and settle local problems before they erupt and spread The professions of peace ill fit a country which under the garb of maintaining peace and stability, supplies massive quantities of arms and military equipment to several countries in the world's sensitive areas. The Vietnam story was a tragedy of "good intentions" which were really meant to exercise control over another weak country as a part of political strategy. In Africa, the USA backs several regimes to counter Soviet influence, and also in Asia and South-East Asia. Wherever it has gone for peacemaking, war has spread and conflict has

erupted. And yet the USA says it is a peacemaker.

The Soviet Union's record is no better; it has, in recent years, scored several advantages over the USA by secretly and quietly establishing its influence and supporting rebel forces to overthrow certain regimes. Afghanistan fell to Soviet designs in April, 1978, and Cambodia was overpowered by Soviet-backed Vietnamese forces early in January, 1979. In Africa, the Soviet Union has established a firm base in Ethiopia after the loss, through US designs, of its old base in Somalia. The Soviet Union follows a policy of signing long term "friendship treaties" with its allies; such friendship actually means prolonged domination of the weaker nations by the Russian Bear. But President Brezhnev said in his interview to *Time* magazine that "I am convinced that good neighbourliness—regardless of differences in political system and views—is the best line in inter-State relations".

Exposing all talk of a Soviet "threat", he said, all the "hullabaloo about a Soviet threat to Western Europe" was nonsense. Why has the balance that has existed for many years suddenly become a threat? Whom are we threatening? Are we really claiming a single square kilometre of the territory of any State? Is not the Soviet Union a major sponsor of all actions to strengthen peace?"

If actions could match words, the world would be a much happier and a more peaceful place to live in. Actually it is not.

Crisis In Iran

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another victory for theocracy and religious fanaticism. The new Iranian Government may not be so friendly to India as the Shah was. A new balance of power may emerge, and it may not be so co-operative.

Socio-economic Consequences of Arms Race

Detente or arms race? This million-dollar question has been the subject-matter of global polemics. The rejection of arms race on socio-economic grounds is advocated in a recent U.N. report. This feature highlights some salient points.

—Editor

The Second World War ended in mid-forties but the arms race has continued unabated and the military expenditure has been growing from year to year.

According to a recent United Nations Organisation report, the world has been diverting annually about \$ 350 billion at 1977 prices to military ends. Three-fourths of this is accounted for by six big countries: USA, USSR, China, France, UK and Federal Republic of Germany. Military spending has, according to a survey, increased from 1974 to 1975 as a proportion of the Gross National Product in two-thirds of the 125 countries surveyed. On average, countries are devoting 5 to 6 per cent of their output for military purposes. In extreme cases, it is as high as 30 per cent or more of output; in other cases, it is less than 1 per cent. The annual average of India's military budget during 1972-74 stood at 2.8 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (Rs. 577.3 billion at current prices). These figures reflect the resources diverted from other avenues of public and private expenditure.

The waste involved in this heavy drain on resources raises the million-dollar question: Detente or arms race? The choice between the two alternatives is difficult, indeed. It is even dangerous for any country in this tension-ridden world to vote singly for one or the other alternative. The pursuit of arms race has posed a big threat, generated an atmos-

phere of mutual distrust and thus eroded the prospects of a detente. Unless all nations, especially the big powers and the industrialized ones, come to an agreement on detente, its achievement is impossible.

With nuclear arsenals sufficient to destroy the entire world and the threat of self-destruction if ever the nuclear war opens, arms race and military spending must be brought under effective control. Apart from the question of survival of mankind, the socio-economic consequences of the arms race demand abandonment of this goal. The developing countries, including India, have been harping on this from the very beginning. Even the nuclear "implosion" burst by our country has not deflected us from the chosen path.

Arms Race: Its Impact

1. Waste of resources: Although the drain on resources, human and material, cannot be quantified, yet their diversion from more productive channels, to the extent indicated earlier, provides an unmistakable clue to the heavy waste involved. If half the funds spent on armament throughout the world during 1970-75 had been invested instead in the civilian sector, the annual output could have been increased by \$ 200 billion at the end of the period. The sum of \$ 200 billion is a little more than the aggregate GNP of Southern Asia and the mid-African region with a population of over 1 billion people.

2. Inflation: The arms

race and military expenditure is inherently inflationary in character as it creates purchasing power and effective demand without an offsetting increase in immediately consumable output. On the contrary, it creates scarcity of resources by diverting them to non-productive channels. During the last decade, the inflationary forces swept the whole world. The contribution of the rising military outlays was not inconsequential. The excess demand creates an upward pressure on prices throughout the economy. Inflation is exported, affecting other countries in the form of price increases. The underdeveloped economies suffer the most from such movements.

3. Balance of payments: The inflationary impact of military expenditure on the prices of exported military goods to developing countries results in a deterioration of their terms of trade. At the same time, arms race compounds difficulties of balance of payments. A very glaring example of this is afforded by the Vietnam war which landed USA in huge balance of payments deficits and destabilized the dollar as an international reserve currency.

4. Global political instability: The international sale or aid of arms by the developed to the developing nations has caused tension among countries. Since the dawn of Independence, Indo-Pakistan relations have more often than not been tense and the two countries were locked in hot wars twice (in 1965

and 1971) within a short span of six years. India has always pleaded in vain with America to desist from giving arms aid to Pakistan and jeopardizing thereby the peace of the region.

5. Economic bottlenecks: The deleterious effect of resource diversion is nowhere felt so strongly as in the developing economies. Severe bottlenecks are created in the developing economies in the areas of foreign exchange technical skill, managerial manpower, industrial and economic growth.

6. Investment: To fight the war on poverty—the worst enemy in the under-developed world—and to narrow the rich-poor gap which is likely to widen in the future, it is imperative that the developing nations increase investments considerably. It is estimated that the rate of investment must be stepped up to 30-35 per cent of GNP and in some cases even to 40 per cent. The world agricultural production must go up three or four times in 1970 level. This would require substantial investment for bringing new land under cultivation for providing additional irrigation facilities and for high-yielding techniques of cultivation. Such programme would not be possible without radical cuts in military spending.

7. Technology: For growth and development, the technological input holds the key position. It is in the field of research and development (R & D) that the diversion of productive resources to military ends is most massive. An estimated 4 lakh engineers and scientists are working on military projects throughout the world. It is argued that many of the gains in R & D in the civilian field are the outcome of spin-offs of the military technical innovations. This is actually a myth. It does not imply that the military R & D efforts have had no effect on civilian technology. It does

suggest that rapid and far-reaching technological change does not need the spur of military requirement. All told, “technological innovation and, with it, growth are not furthered by military R & D but are greatly impaired by it”. Nevertheless Dr H.N. Sethna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, maintains that “the nuclear efforts (in India) has given a definite direction to the scientific and technological aspirations of our people”.

8. Growth: For economic development and growth, the basic parameters affected by excessive military expenditure are: investment, work force and technology. For the maintenance and arming of large standing forces, a correspondingly large dose of resources is diverted. As a result, the civil sector is left with a much smaller share than is necessary. The industrial development suffers. A recent report of UNO expert Group says: “the general negative effects of resource diversion to military uses tend to be aggravated in developing countries because modern armed forces make heavy demands on many of the resources which are most needed for development”.

9. Employment: An erroneous view persists that high military expenditure cushions unemployment. The fact, however, remains that military outlays are not unique in their ability to generate employment. In fact, the high-technology component in arms race has eroded their over-all job-creating potential. According to the US government estimates a billion dollars of military expenditure creates 76,000 jobs. But if the same amount is spent on civilian programmes, it would create an average of over 100,000 jobs and many more than this if labour-intensive technique is adopted or the funds are released for private consumption.

10. Pollution: According to W. Leontieff, combating pollution would involve an expenditure of 1.4 to 1.9 per cent of GNP under moderate assumptions and of the order of 2.5 to 4 per cent in a more maximalist version. It follows that the pursuit of arms race and military expenditure more extensively would require a high proportion of the national income cake, slashing it down to a smaller size for the non-military sector.

11. Disarmament: If the argument to bring the rat race for armament to a dead stop were conceded, two questions at once strike one's mind: first, how to switch over from armament to disarmament; second, what will be the effects of such a change?

The answer to the first question is not easy. The ideal solution will be to generate an atmosphere of mutual trust, amity and good-will among the different nations. Pious hope is invariably expressed at meetings of high-ups to pursue this goal. But there it ends. As the meetings end, the pre-meeting climate of doubt and acrimony reappears.

As regards the second question, the beneficial effects of disarmament are indisputable. In the short run some difficulties from recession, un-employment and economic disruption due to re-conversion of plant and installations and re-deployment of personnel may arise, but “the over-all effect is not recession but stimulation of the economy and a decline in unemployment”. No major instability would result from disarmament in the view of the UN expert group.

Conclusion: The salvation of the world lies in a break-away, through a phased-out programme from the pursuits of arms race and high military expenditure.

International Year of the Child and the Developing Countries

The children are the future hopes of mankind. Therefore mankind owes to the child the best it has to give. The year 1979 dawned with two vital programmes: one, the devotion of the year to the child welfare; second, the celebration of the month-long family welfare programmes. This feature deals with the first and highlights the need of IYC and the action plan for it in the present and the future.

—Editor

"Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give", says the Preamble to the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child. And, rightly so. Children constitute the most supreme asset of mankind. It is also the most vulnerable. Yet, alas!, without safeguards. The declaration of 1979 as the International Year of the Child (IYC) marks the watershed for the preservation and development of childhood of the children's world. It is a commitment to to-day's children and tomorrow's world. It is a recognition of the fact that affluence by itself cannot be the *El Dorado* for the children who have turned into drug addicts, youthful offenders and delinquents. Something more is needed to give to the children of to-day a better tomorrow.

Two decades ago, the United Nations Organisation adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child to love, nutrition, medical care, free education etc. The IYC is both a challenge and an opportunity for the developing countries, in particular, to make an assessment of what has been done since to promote the cause of the child and to initiate an action plan to plug the deficiencies.

I. Need

The need for the celebration of the IYC cannot be over-emphasized in the social milieu surrounding the children in the

third world countries and the economic malaise prevailing there.

The child population of the world is about 35 per cent (1.5 billion) of the total population. By 2000 A.D. to-day's children are expected to account for one-fourth of the world's population and 40 per cent of the labour force. India has over 270 million children which is more than the entire population of the United States of America and Australia. We add annually nearly half of the 23 million of the now-born babies to our burgeoning population. If all the children have to be developed physically, emotionally, intellectually and socially, the task would be colossal.

The IYC will help generate a new consciousness in the world, especially in the under-developed countries which bear the greater burden of the child population, to make the children of the present the focus of the socio-economic transformation taking place there. The package of the action plan will be directed to bear on the following fronts:

1. Nutrition: The number of children suffering from mal-nutrition is variously estimated between 40 million and 120 million. They pose a very serious problem of providing adequate nutritional food in-

cluding vitamins, proteins and minerals. Mal-nutrition is responsible for 17 per cent of premature births leading to poor resistance, disease and stunted growth, both mental and physical. This is also responsible for the high infant mortality rate—131 per 1000 live births in rural areas and 81 per 1000 births in urban areas. Deficiency in vitamin A, in particular, has been responsible for blindness. Due to under-nourishment 90 per cent of the school children in India weigh 10 to 40 per cent less than their counterparts in U.S.A. The nutritional programmes initiated since the inception of planning in 1951, have now been intensified. Even so, the outlays provided for them are ridiculously low. The Delhi Municipal Corporation, for instance, has allocated "15 paise per meal per school child" during the year (1979). What can this measly sum buy for a child? The Corporation's policy amounts to cutting one's nose to spite one's face. Hordes of hungry children for whom the nutritional programmes are meant will remain where they are.

The sixth five-year plan, 1978-83, envisages an outlay of Rs. 305 crore as against Rs. 201.80 for the fifth five-year plan (1974-79) for the social welfare and nutrition. This includes Rs. 54.50 crore for the child welfare.

2. Diseases: Malnourished kids are more prone to diseases as they lack natural resistance. In 1974, for instance, 47 per cent of the malaria cases belonged to the 1-14 year age group. The necessity of immunization of children against diseases like tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio has been urged upon the masses but their response is not enough, at least not so in the backward and tribal areas where it is needed most.

Nearly 2.5 million children suffer from vitamin A deficiency and 22 per cent school children in India show one or more signs of nutritional deficiency.

3. Education: Recognising the dire need of wide-spread education, the founding fathers of our Constitution enjoined upon the State the responsibility to provide by 1960 "free and compulsory education for all children" upto the age of 14 years. Nineteen years have elapsed beyond the stipulated deadline but the Constitutional obligation has not been fulfilled. The goal will ever elude us if the swelling stream of children continues flowing at the phenomenal rate of two children per minute. Only if the State governments, in whose purview the child education legitimately falls, could gear themselves up to the task during the Year of the Child, a breakthrough would be possible. The National Adult Education Programme, started last year, would also reinforce the State efforts. The Adult Education Centres can (and should) kindle a desire in the adult minds to utilise fully the facilities for education at schools and also discourage the tendency for drop-outs at the early stages of education. It is estimated that 60 per cent of the school children drop at the primary stage and 40 per cent at the middle stage.

4. Employment: Article 24 of the Constitution stipulates:

"No child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment". Despite this ban on child labour and a host of laws prohibiting employment of children, India has earned the distinction of having the highest incidence of child labour in the world. Our child labour force stands at 10.7 million out of the total of 180.4 million and will continue increasing in the coming decades unless the socio-economic conditions are changed for the better. Poverty drives them to work in factories, shop establishments, hotels, hostels, mines and quarries; to attend to household chores requiring scrubbing of utensils, washing of clothes and cleansing of floors; to tend cattle in villages or work as bonded labour. They work as mute creatures and their voice is not listened. They turn beggars and mendicants; indulge in crimes such as pick-pocketing. The rehabilitation of children who are subjected to exploitation and repression by the society is a very serious problem.

II. Action Plan

India has already had a National Child Welfare Policy but unfortunately there is a big gap between what is being done and what should be done. It is gratifying to note that a high-level policy-making body—National Children's Board—with Prime Minister as its president and eminent personalities like Mother Teresa on it has been set up in IYC. It is also proposed to form a national commission to pool the various governments to participate actively in the child welfare programmes. It is believed that the child welfare would be meaningless unless it is integrated with the socio-economic plans.

The National Plan of Action has identified areas for work during the current year. These

include health and nutrition, environmental sanitation, supply of safe drinking water, education and social welfare.

The setting up of a national fund for the child is also under consideration. The UNICEF has pledged to India an aid of the order of Rs. 437 million for the period 1974-79. This is the highest commitment to any single country. Earlier India was the recipient of aid amounting to Rs. 716 million during 1949-73.

But all the safeguards for the protection of the child born will come to nought if they are not accompanied by family planning. Child welfare programmes would prove abortive unless they are integrated with family welfare which includes family planning and amelioration of the economic lot of the family. Planned parenthood must therefore receive top priority along with the child welfare programmes.

III. Further Action

In the past, laws, charters, committees have been formed for the protection of the child. Despite this, children are cruelly and blatantly exploited. Obviously, many of the plans, policies and programmes have failed to click. What is really needed is to add to it new dimensions of making it a "Peoples' movement". Children must be provided an appropriate environment for their multilateral development and growth. The pregnant and lactating mothers must be provided with a adequate balanced diet. Those who violate the laws on child employment must be dealt with severely. The IYC should aim at bringing to light the deep-seated problems of juvenile delinquency and take positive and pragmatic measures towards solving them.

ECONOMIC SCENE

- Federal Finance Relations
- Nationalize Key Industries ?
- Public Distribution System
- European Monetary System

Federal Finance Relations

Q. What are the snags in the Centre-State financial relations ? Give a reasoned answer.

Ans. The federal financial relations have for decades kept the cauldron of controversy boiling. The red-heat point is reached during the deliberations of the finance commissions which the Centre has been appointing almost quinquennially since 1952.

The Seventh Finance Commission provided the most recent opportunity to the States and Union Territories to press their claims for increased allocations of shareable resources available with the Union. The issue assumed renewed importance for two-fold reasons: One, the growing concern to reduce the widening inter-State economic disparities; Two, the burgeoning development obligations following the transfer of centrally-sponsored plans to the States.

The Seventh Finance Commission has, in response to the States' demands, recommended: (i) that 85 per cent of the net proceeds of the income-tax shall be assigned to the States, excluding Sikkim where the tax is not leviable at present; (the Sixth Finance Commission had fixed the proportion of shareable income tax at 80 per cent only). (ii) that 90 per cent of the net proceeds of income-tax shareable with the States should be

distributed among them in the population ratio; (iii) that 40 per cent of the net proceeds of Union excise duties should form the divisible pool.

The States plead that in spite of the enhancement in the income-tax allocations, they have no share in the buoyant taxes such as the corporation tax.

The main snag however is as to what should be the basis of sharing the divisible pool of revenues. To decide on this very sensitive issue, the National Development Council appointed a committee at its meeting in March 1978. The committee having failed to find an alternate formula has accepted the continuance of the Gadgil formula for the devolution of revenue for the current plan period, 1978-83. The committee has also agreed to transfer plans to the States which would require an outlay of Rs. 2,650 crore. The Centre will retain an outlay of Rs. 3,350 crore for the Centrally-sponsored plans. The inter-State distribution of the amount going to the States has been left undecided.

On this crucial question, the majority report gives equal weights to four variables in the devolution formula. These variables are: population, poverty ratio, *per capita* income and revenue distance. Professor Raj Krishna member of the Finance Commission as a re-

presentative of the Planning Commission suggested in his dissenting Note to the Commission's report an alternate formula which does not include the "revenue distance" as one of the variables. He has 'invented' the "income adjusted poverty percentage" (IAPP) as the criterion for resource distribution. This is computed as $(\text{population}) \times (\text{poverty ratio}) \div \text{per capita income}$. He claims that IAPP would minimise arbitrary weightage (as adopted by the majority report) and impart greater progressivity to the basis for distribution. The Central government has accepted the criterion of devolution recommended by the majority report.

Nationalize Key Industries

Q. Would you or would you not favour nationalization of key industries ?

Ans. "To nationalize or not to nationalize industries". That is the question. The recent threat of take-over of basic industries, notably steel, aluminium and automobile, has revived the controversy on the subject of nationalization of industries in India.

Arguments For

While the Janata party government does not advocate the philosophy of nationalization for the sake of nationalization, it has so far failed to give its decision in a firm manner on

this issue. The Janata party's national executive meeting (on January 19, 1979) was confronted with two notes on this vitally important issue. One note was by the Union industry minister George Fernandes and the other by Mr J.R.D. Tata, leading industrialist.

Mr Fernandes advocated nationalization of some selected industries because (a) the public sector must be enlarged to subserve the social purpose; (b) a massive investment of at least Rs. 4,000 crore should be done in the fields like fertilisers, aluminium, essential items of chemicals etc.; (c) the monopoly houses must be checked from expansion; (d) concentration of economic power need be curtailed if the national goal of decentralisation of industries is to be achieved.

Arguments Against

Mr Tata, on the contrary, maintained that there was no economic rationale for the nationalisation of the basic industries, much less TISCO (of which he has been the chairman for the last 40 years). He argued: (i) that nationalisation of TISCO is not warranted on grounds of alleged mis-management, concentration of economic power, industrial sickness, investment for modernisation and removal of disparities. (ii) that nationalisation is the negation of the mixed economy approach which is our national commitment; (iii) that the growth of the private sector should not be muzzleed in the name of nationalisation; (iv) that nationalisation would only bring a "statist economy"; (v) that unless this is stopped in time, "economic totalitarianism cannot but erode the fundamentals and substance of our political democracy"; (vi) that it will also shake the confidence of all the non-communist countries whose support with aid and technology will still be needed by India for some years to come.

The Janata Party executive, as expected, did not take a stand which might exacerbate the private sector. Its 22-point resolution on implementation of the socio-economic policies merely said in clause 12 that the "control and holdings of the large industrial houses be effectively reduced". The preceding clause 11 of the resolution is a little more categorical in demanding that necessary steps should be taken "to ease out large business houses and multi-nationals in a phased manner".

The party has authorized the party chief to appoint a committee to make an in-depth study and report on the subject before taking a firm decision.

Thus the party is indecisive in the matter of take-over of basic industries. But this will be a damp squib on industrial growth.

Public Distribution System

Q. Set out briefly the objective, features and prospects of the public production-cum-distribution system.

Ans. Objectives: The free market mechanism having been found inadequate in protecting the interests of the vulnerable section of society, the Union government envisages to launch from July 1, 1979, a country-wide production-cum-distribution scheme. Under this scheme seven selected commodities will be supplied at reasonable prices to the low-income group people through a net-work of fair price shops.

Features: The salient features of the public distribution scheme are: (1) Sustaining and increasing production of basic essential commodities. Farmers will be provided subsidised inputs like fertilisers.

(2) Every village or a group of villages with a population of 2,000, or in hill areas 1,000, will have one fair price shop. The

geographical coverage may be expanded later to cover remote or inaccessible areas also. As a result, the number of fair price shops in the country will increase to 3.5 or 3.75 lakh.

(3) The commodities identified for the present are: wheat, rice, coarse grains, controlled cloth, edible oil, soft coke and kerosene oil. More manufactured items may be included later.

(4) The system may harness into use the public, private and co-operative sectors. Formation of consumers' co-operatives may be encouraged.

(5) The private trade will not be eliminated but channelized into the system.

Prospects: The successful implementation of the system depends on (a) sustained production; (b) procurement, import (if necessary) of goods and buffer stocking; (c) efficient transport from the buffer stocks to the distribution points; and (d) active co-operation of the State governments and the Union Territories.

In this way, the government is endeavouring to create a permanent distribution mechanism that would aid and guide allocation of goods of mass consumption to the whole of the country. The objective is to have a fair and equitable distribution and to curb the "blind market forces".

Criticism: *Prima facie*, the scheme is welcome. Its success is problematical. The burden of subsidies on the government, the creation of viable units responsible for distribution, sustaining production, especially of the farm products, and the problems of expansion of geographical and commodity coverage must enter into our reckoning for the distribution system.

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Science, Scientists and Society

Science and the scientific spirit are the basis of life today; true science implies the search for truth and discovery of nature, on the one hand, and betterment of humanity, on the other. There is no denying the fact that science has brought a greater appreciation of facts, developed a critical faculty and, alongside it, a tendency to weigh evidence as well as a refusal to accept tradition or superstition. There was certainly much reason in Goethe's observation that science and art belong to the whole world and that before them vanish all artificial barriers. Though their processes and methods are quite different, the basic aim—search for truth—is the same.

Through the process of trial and error, that is experimentation, science discovers many laws of Nature and builds up many theories, though many of them are later disproved or modified as a result of further scientific research and endeavour. It has been well said that science is man applied to Nature; in this sense, the scientist is basically an analyst constantly applying his mental faculties to a deep study of things around him, questioning everything and leaving nothing to chance or old beliefs.

Science may have little to do with religion or religious beliefs and dogmas, but if it gets completely divorced from ethics and the principles of morality, then its virtually unlimited power is likely to be exploited for evil purposes—for war and destruction, for instance. Then, instead of crea-

tion, begins the process of destruction. The process is slow and time-consuming, but humanity's solid gain is the scientific temper, the enlightened outlook, the greater understanding, the discovery of Nature's marvels for the benefit of the masses.

The genuine scientific attitude and outlook is, however, not materialistic; by its very nature it is objective and empirical, easing the burden of life step by step. - It has shortened distances and shrunk the globe. The various devices and methods of application now touch every aspect of life of the poor as well as the rich. Modern civilisation is science itself, though there are glaring aberrations in certain spheres. Science has led, inevitably, to industrialism through its numerous applications. Why science has not ensured human happiness all round is, however, another question. Not all comfort and convenience is happiness, which depends upon one's mental attitudes and other factors.

Much attention was recently focussed on the role of science and of scientists in a country like India with its teeming millions, with its massive and soul-killing poverty, its social and economic backwardness, and a host of other problems. On the one hand, countless people complain that the thousands of scientists working in air-conditioned, prestigious laboratories housed in expensive, modern buildings have done little for the benefit of the common man, and, on the other, scientists contend that the grants placed at their disposal are inadequate and quote in-

stances of countries like the USA where the percentage of the total Government expenditure devoted to science and scientific research is much larger.

This argument is countered by the people generally by pointing to the immense waste and misappropriation, and also the mismanagement and frustration of junior scientists in Government laboratories. The recent cases of suicide by heart-broken scientists as a result of the endless frustration they have to suffer through red tape and the heartless coils of bureaucracy, made worse by the selfish designs of senior scientists and heads of laboratories who seek personal gain through the research efforts of their subordinates, have led to considerable heart-scarching, and demands for a reassessment of the roles of scientists.

What precisely is the work being done in the impressive network of National Laboratories spread all over the country? How long will the laboratories continue to be mere showpieces and "white elephants"? Demands have often been voiced for reconstituting the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research so as to eliminate the deadwood and make the institutions service-oriented in order to ensure the maximum benefits to the people. Repeated attempts have also been made by critics, both inside and outside Parliament, to denigrate the scientific community as a whole. Consequently, as a scientist put it, never before has the morale in India's scientific establishments, notably those

owned and run by the Government, so low as it is today.

Both heads of certain departments and the scientists themselves feel embittered by decisions taken at high levels without adequate consultation with the persons directly concerned. There are increasing complaints of the lack of encouragement and the continued neglect, and also of needless and unjustified criticism. The defence by scientists of their laboratories is natural; but they have not convincingly answered the criticism that much of their work is repetitive and duplicate; most of the research carried on in this country is largely futile, uncoordinated and pointless.

At present there are about 130 National Laboratories and also a network of about 200 other laboratories and research institutions. The expenditure on scientific research increased from Rs. 4.7 crore in 1950-51 to about Rs. 400 crore in 1976-77, and it must have increased further now. It may also be noted that the science and technology component of the Fifth Plan, envisaged in the public sector, was over Rs. 1,570 crores. Moreover, there are large establishments for atomic energy and agricultural research. There are several institutions concerned with research; the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Defence Research and Development Organisation, the National Committee on Science and Technology (NCST), backed by a regular Government Department of Science and Technology, the Space Commission backed by a Department of Space and also an Electronics Commission and a Central Department of Electronics. Agricultural research has been carried on for the past many years by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with the help of 24 institutions and 21 agricultural universities. There is also the Indian Council

of Medical Research, with 10 permanent institutions, besides similar institutions in aviation, water and power, etc.

The Government of India's science policy is based on a resolution passed by Parliament in March, 1958. The aims and objects of this policy include securing for the people the benefits from the acquisition of scientific knowledge and its application, encouraging individual initiative for the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge, discovery of new knowledge, training of science and technical personnel for agriculture industry and defence, and ensuring an adequate supply of scientists—all designed to foster and sustain the cultivation of science and scientific research in all its aspects—basic, applied and educational.

The National Committee on Science and Technology is the apex body to advise the Government on all matters relating to planning and promotion of science and technology. India's first Science and Technology Plan was prepared in 1973. The plan accords priority to such areas of activity as natural resources, fuel and power, oil and natural gas, petrochemicals, fertilisers, ground water, minerals engineering, machine tools, mining, steel industry and utilisation of wastes.

Early in 1978 there was a proposal to prescribe a revised science policy in accordance with the new emphasis on rural development by the Janata Government, but the move was later given up by the National Committee on Science and Technology. The 1958 Science Policy resolution was framed by Pandit Nehru and Dr Bhabha (the famous atomic energy expert to whose talent and guidance the country owes much). Following the need for a technology policy resolution a draft was prepared to lay down the broad

guidelines in this sphere. Technology is now recognised as an essential input of production which influences and is, in turn, influenced by, the economic and social structure.

The draft declared that import of technology would be permitted only on a selective basis in areas where it was essential and that too on India's terms. It was realised that the draft for a new science policy contained several provisions which would not have been acceptable to a majority of scientists and would have changed the basic aims. But from the standpoint of public interest the draft contained a useful provision—that scientific activity could be justified only in terms of relevance and use.

In sum, the 1958 Science Policy stands, and no new concepts have been introduced, largely because most of the scientists prefer to work as they like, regardless of the ultimate benefits of their research to society and to a developing country. All the exhortations made to scientists by the Prime Ministers of India to serve the country and the masses seem to fall on deaf ears. The advice was repeated by Prime Minister Desai when he addressed the Indian Science Congress in January, 1979, but the session showed that there was little genuine interest among scientists in discussing schemes that would serve the country. Thus, by and large, the "ivory tower approach" of scientists continues, and the net gain to the country from the massive sums spent on science is woefully inadequate and utterly disproportionate.

Science

The humble knowledge of thyself is a surer way to God than the deepest search after science.

—THOMAS A. KEMPS

The Myth of Brain Drain

For years there has been much talk of brain drain from this and other developing countries. Steps have been considered for preventing qualified people, the technocrats, from leaving the country and settling in foreign lands. But the latest assessments of the position indicate that the emigration of such technocrats does not mean much of a loss to the people here and that in many respects migration on a regulated scale is beneficial to the country. The proposition for debate is: "The talk of a brain drain is pointless".

Mr A: I fully support the proposition before the house that the so-called brain drain signifying the emigration of highly qualified doctors, engineers and other trained people to foreign lands is doing no harm to the country and, in fact, the nation stands to benefit from their activity abroad. For one thing, this country does not have adequate opportunities of service for such qualified people, and it is better that they should be able to put their talent to good use rather than make them rot here in mismanaged centres of scientific and other technical activity which fail to provide fruitful openings. If these people cannot be absorbed here and are in a way surplus to our needs, where is the harm if they go abroad, take up remunerative assignments, make a name for themselves and bring credit to the country which has trained them? The long wait for suitable jobs in India means a waste of talent and, in part, also of the money spent on their education and training. The number of cases of scientists who are feeling frustrated in India for lack of opportunities runs into thousands; most of them are engaged in jobs which can be performed by less qualified people. Job satisfaction, which is a must for enabling a worker to put in his or her best in an assignment, is just not there. We should first provide adequate service opportunities

in our own country before we think of preventing people from migrating to seek pastures new. Further, even those scientists who have returned home in response to our leaders' exhortations have felt disappointed; the so-called "pool of scientists" in India has proved a virtual failure since many of these people have been merely put on doles and petty salaries and asked to wait almost indefinitely for suitable employment. When they find that they cannot even get emoluments commensurate with their basic requirements, they either go back or become a burden to society. Is it not better that they should serve where they get paid adequately? I am not pleading for those who only have monetary attractions in mind; the lure of money in itself is indefensible but surely there is such a thing as a sense of proportion and a reasonable pay to enable them to concentrate on their work instead of being dominated constantly by financial handicaps and the spectre of starvation.

Mr B: It seems to me that my friend, Mr A, has been swept off his feet by the arguments of those who contend that Indian scientists invariably do well in foreign lands and that in this country enough opportunities do not exist for them. This poor country spends lakhs of rupees on training and equipping doctors and engineers who then go

out because they get attractive salaries and other facilities in foreign lands. The magnitude of the problem is apparent from the figures compiled by UNCTAD, according to which the imputed value of skilled migration (brain drain) from the developing countries to the U.S.A., Canada and Britain during the period 1961-72 was 46 billion dollars, or 3.8 billion dollars annually. All this indicates a reverse transfer of technology. Again, it may be noted that the amount involved in this skilled migration is roughly equivalent to the Official Development Assistance (ODA) flowing from these advanced countries over the same period, and to about 50 per cent of the total flow of resources, both official and non-official, to the needy regions. The UNCTAD document, in fact, suggests that the advanced nations which secure the benefit of the skill of technocrats from the developing countries should give adequate compensation to the nations to which the experts belong. The loss of skill should thus be adequately compensated. The equation is interesting: the Western nations give monetary and other types of aid to needy countries and get in return a transfer of skill produced often at their cost. Imagine the extent of the migration: it has been estimated that skilled people belonging to the Third World who have gone abroad during

the period 1960 to 1975-76 numbered over 300,000 (this is probably an under-estimate because many people do not get themselves registered with official agencies and pick up work on their own. So the loss is indeed heavy and there is no point in underplaying it. Nor is it correct to argue that the outflow from India and other Third World regions has lately fallen even as development in these countries proceeds apace. In 1961-65 the U.S.A. had 37 per cent of foreign experts, but now the Third World accounts for 70 to 80 per cent. So I think the time has come to check the drain.

Mr C: I would rather support the contentions put forth by my colleague, Mr A. Apart from the fact that our experts are in surplus and make good abroad, there is also the substantial financial gains which accrue to India through the liberal remittances which Indians in the U.S.A., Canada and in the Middle East, including Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, send home. Most Punjab villagers are becoming prosperous because of the large amounts of money sent home by their sons or brothers, skilled technicians of all varieties, including engineers, doctors, carpenters and masons. It is widely believed that if a Punjabi doctor or even a second-rate engineer spends a couple of years in the Middle East or Africa, he can save enough for a lifetime's expenditure of his family in his village. Should we stop this process of rapid and heartening enrichment of our people? Let our experts go out, lead an adventurous life, make a success of their careers and send foreign exchange home regularly. It has been estimated that India's foreign exchange reserves now stand at 5,200 crores, in large part due to the money sent home by Indian skilled hands working abroad.

There is yet another aspect of the matter. It has been found that a large number of the people going abroad get only petty jobs far below what their qualifications entitle them to. Key opportunities are denied to most of them. They do manage somehow to earn a good deal of money because of the high scales of pay abroad even for relatively minor jobs but the question arises: where is the brain drain? Is the loss and emigration of such people a loss to India? It is evident that even if these people had continued to live in this country, they would not have made a remarkable contribution to Indian life and development. Moreover, is it not correct that even a third class graduate who goes abroad and secures some sort of a degree by writing a thesis on some obscure subject suddenly becomes first class in Indian eyes by wearing the foreign degree label? Degrees, especially Ph.D.s can be had without much difficulty in certain foreign universities. Would that be real talent and would it be described as a brain drain? By no means. But many people think even the exit of third-rate people is some sort of a drain; actually, it is just the reverse. Better brains often stay in the country for patriotic and family reasons, or if they go abroad, they return home after some time and after gaining more skill at the cost of that country.

Mr D: The point is that India has vast manpower and lakhs of people are without suitable jobs. The Government of India is spending crores of rupees on removing unemployment from the country within 10 years. The emigration of people to earn money abroad helps this programme for promoting employment. Is it not true that if Hargobind Khurana and Narlikar had stayed in India throughout their life, they would not have distinguished them-

selves and won world recognition? I feel that the New International Order which the Third World has been seeking for many years should also require that full recognition be given to the fact that technocrats from developing countries have enriched life in the countries where they work, through medical or engineering performances. This should result in a corresponding obligation on the advanced country to compensate the country of origin to the extent of the money spent on training and equipping a doctor or engineer whose services they are themselves utilising. Such skilled people pay taxes to the country where they have taken up jobs and provide certain basic facilities, especially medical aid. According to one estimate, if one-third or a little more of the taxes raised by the advanced country from skilled hands originating from developing countries are shared, the amount involved may be about 500 million dollars annually. Unfortunately, India suffers in two ways as a result of the brain drain: an external drain—outflow of skill—and internal drain through the diversion of highly developed skills to assignments which benefit the masses very little or are of no immediate relevance to industry or society in general. Perhaps the next UNCTAD session in Manila and the next UN Assembly session later this year will evolve some solutions; in any case, the problems are on the agenda of both these organisations and the Third World is bound to make an issue of them.

Courage

Courage is the best gift of all; courage stands before everything. It is what preserves our liberty, safety, life, and our homes and parents, our country and children. Courage comprises all things; a man with courage has every blessing.

—PLAUTUS

The Magic in a good Personality is You

It is only our deeds that reveal who we are.

—C.G. JUNG

*The highest bliss on earth shall be
The joys of personality*

These lines give expression to the view that the ultimate aim and the strongest desire of all mankind is to develop that fullness of life which is called personality.

A lucky-stone? A four-leaf clover? An amulet? A tiger's claw?

None of these is needed to achieve the highest bliss of a personality. The magic of personality lies within yourself and within your grasp. There are many things which are not within your control, but your personality is. The personality you build up is upto you! You are the architect of your personality. Its evolution is creative self-sculpture. So if you are not satisfied with your personality, you have only yourself to thank—and then do something to create a personality that will help you achieve your goals in life.

The Uniqueness of Personality

The way you talk; the way you walk; the way you act towards others; your gestures, traits, mannerism—they all spell you and no one else. Twins may dress alike, wear their hair alike and yet have vastly different personality, for each individual brings a unique stamp to his personality, for better or worse. Each one of you is in short a unique personality, yourself—and—nobody else.

Boomerang Personality, says Miriam Gilbert, is also like a boomerang. It bounces back off people. A man or woman

with a friendly nature makes friends. A 'giving' personality produces 'getting' results. The individual who co-operates willingly and cheerfully may not need to think about developing a 'good' personality. But a 'good' personality can be made even better. The secret lies in your making capital of your individuality. As the French sage-writer Montaigne puts it, "It is an absolute perfection and as it were divine to know how, in all sincerity, to get the very most out of one's individuality."

Let us break down personality into its parts. That way you can easily assess your personality and decide which areas you need to build up or re-make. The game is worth the candle. For your personality is the passport to success. Before embarking upon this worthwhile effort, remember as Dr V.E. Frankl points out, "Man is by no means merely the product of heredity and environment. There is a third element; decision. Man ultimately decides for himself! And, in the end, education must be toward the ability to decide."

The Way you Walk

The way you move towards a person does a lot to tell him how you feel. It conveys an instant and definite impression. You create a good impression if you move forward energetically to greet the other person, if there is a lift in your shoulder, a spring in your gait, grace in your steps and an eagerness on

your face to plunge into your work. In a word the way you walk can help you on the road to a successful personality.

Posture

Posture plays a part in many snap judgements of personality. The idea of a leader usually includes an upright, almost a military bearing. Research has revealed that people with poor posture have often inferiority feelings. A person with stooped shoulders is bound to create a poor impression on others.

The Way you Talk

The person with whom it is a pleasure to talk has something interesting to say—and says it well. He also knows when to listen. Rev. Sidney Smith "the Smith of Smiths", said of Macaulay "He has occasional flashes of silence that make his conversation perfectly delightful."

Encourage others to talk to you. In conversation, draw out people with little urges such as "Tell me about your experience" or "What do you think should be done about" or "What do you think is the key point?" As Dr David J. Schwartz puts it, "There is no sure way to be liked by others than to encourage them to talk to you." Voice is a vital trait of personality. Modulate your voice. Don't blast. Vary your voice to bring out important points. Have a smile on your lips. Speak clearly. Don't talk too fast or too slowly.

Avoid sing song in speaking. To crown all, make sure that you sound sincere. Thoreau said, "Man's noblest gift to man is his sincerity for it embraces his integrity also."

The Way you Look

And we mean your face—the mirror of your personality. Does it automatically stamp you as an old sour puss (sour tempered person)? Or the original sad-sack? Or a ferocious tiger? Or a confirmed sulker? Or a frowning dour pessimist? Or dyed-in-the-wool grouch? Or a tension-ridden candidate for ulcers?

We hope not: for smiling is the easiest thing in the world to do. A sparkling smile and a merry twinkle in your eye are above rubies. They make other persons feel good—and they help you feel good too. It is amazing how relaxing a smile is to your face. The smile that lights the face also warms the heart. It costs nothing but creates much. It enriches those who receive without impoverishing those who give. It is Nature's best antidote for trouble. On the other hand you can't keep a perpetual smile on your face without appearing a blooming idiot or just phoney. A smile without real motivation fools no one. The secret behind real smiles is the development of a sense of *joie de vivre* that is, a feeling of healthy enjoyment of life. Then your smiles will be the natural expression of "a genuinely radiant personality."

The Way you Dress

Of course, the old saying, "The tailor makes the man", is only partially true, but good clothes can make a man look more impressive than he really is. They do speak for you even if you don't utter a single word. A neat, conservatively-dressed person makes a far better impression than someone who wears gaudy garments, or goes

along with kooky hippy fads. A sloppily dressed guy is all too frequently some one who is also sloppy in his other habits and thinking. Don't let your dress be an attraction or distraction. Don't be overly dressy. Hazlitt said insightfully "Those who make their dress a principal part of themselves will in general, become of no more value than their dress". It should be modest neat but not gaudy, reflecting an attractive inner you.

The Way you Treat Others

Dr Paul R. Miller limits the concept of personality to denote interpersonal roles both explicit and implicit. Kindness and courtesy cost nothing yet they buy things that are priceless. Courtesy is to human relations what oil is to machinery. The foundation of good inter-personal relations is friendliness and goodwill. Be considerate of others. Make "Please" and "thank you" two essentials of your vocabulary. Dr Johnson once said, "Sir, a man has no more right to say an uncivil thing than act one—no more right to say a rude thing to another than knock him down". Be ready to praise some one who has done a good job. Let others know that you appreciate the favours done for you. Help a lame dog over a stile. If you open the door for others you also open the door on a good image of yourself.

Learn to disagree agreeably. No intelligent person expects you to rubber stamp all his ideas but he does expect politeness and rationality when you disagree with him. A gentleman will refuse to make an issue out of every difference or opinion.

The Way you Relax

Relaxation is a genuine plus trait for your personality. All work and no play will make you a dull person. Develop a crea-

tive or collecting hobby. There is hardly a device which is such an effective prophylaxis against subjectivity or melancholia as a hobby. Says Dr Beran Wolfe, "It matters not whether you cultivate dahlias or raise gold fish." Reading the latest work of your favourite author, watching a T.V. fun show, a weekend hike, a picnic, a game of ping-pong; a vacation from it all—these are excellent ways of revitalizing you physically and mentally. And without mental and physical health your personality won't be in the pink. According to a psychologist the cat-nappers probably have the most valuable approach to relaxation. Edison, Churchill, Roosevelt were famous cat-nappers. Learn to relax for tension as a whole-time state is a killer.

The Way you Work

If you have a good attitude towards your work, the odds are that you will do a good job. A sense of accomplishment is vital to enjoyment of work. When you enjoy your work, you radiate a more positive personality. Dr G.W. Crane observes "There is no future in any job, the future lies in the man who holds the job". Bring enthusiasm to every task. After all anything worth doing at all is deserving of enthusiasm. To be enthusiastic is to impart your personality a glow. To a young man learning to perform on the flying trapeze, a veteran circus performer once said, "Throw your heart over the bars and your body will follow".

The Way you look on Life

In the development of personality your outlook on life counts a great deal. Are you an optimist? Or a pessimist?

Dr Albert Schweitzer wisely remarks, "An optimist is a person who sees a green light everywhere, while the pessimist

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MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade examinations. Thoughts of certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

The politician is an acrobat. He keeps his balance by saying the opposite of what he does.

—Maurice Barres (1923)

The average politician is an adept at hoodwinking the people. When he stands for an election he gives out that it is none of his seeking. Rather he has been persuaded by friends and admirers to do so for public good. The truth of his assertion is tested at the time he loses the election. He frets and fumes, damns the silly and idiotic voters who did not know where their interest lay. It was one such politician who was asked what he would do if he were elected. Pat came the reply 'That is not my worry. I am worried what I shall do if I am not elected.' Politics for them is a whole-time job and the loss of an election throws them on the roadside. To win the election liberal promises are made. There will be food for all. No one will go about naked or uneducated. The golden age will descend from on high. All this is said with the tongue in the cheek. The election over, there is a sea-change. The servant of yesterday becomes a master overnight. All efforts are directed towards self-aggrandizement. All sorts of alibis are advanced for the non-fulfilment of promises, though the real reason is that all the sound and the fury on the stage was a vote-catching device. The irony is that the voters cheated once will be cheated again. Only the catchwords are different every time.

There is no failure except in no longer trying.

—Hubbard (1927)

The Everest was conquered in 1953 but this conquest came as a climax to a long succession of efforts. Quite often the expedition had to be abandoned but did that blast human endeavour? The invincible spirit of man again and again listened to the call of the peak. The cry was 'Never say die.' Man went on steeling his nerves and improving his equipment. At last he won. Nature challenges him and he devises ships to span the oceans and aeroplanes to cross the mountains. Not that this spanning or crossing was accomplished overnight. Wave after wave of human endeavour took up the challenge. What though the field be lost.

All is not lost, the unconquerable will. A failure establishes only this that our determination to succeed was not strong enough. Failures are with heroic minds the stepping-stones to success. After every failure in his journey in space man has been wiser for his mistakes. And now with the elimination of all those defects and mistakes his movement is getting streamlined and he can calculate his ascent and descent correct to a split-second. And all this is because he did not give in. Bertrand Russell has summed up this indomitable spirit of man thus 'Flops are a part of life's menu and I have never been a girl to miss out on any of the courses.'

Ideas are fatal to caste.

—E.M. Forster (1924)

The ancient Aryans devised a social frame-work in which the Brahmins occupied a towering position and were entitled to respect and tribute of every kind. In course of time Brahmins developed a vested interest in this frame-work and any attempt to dismantle or even disturb it was looked upon as heresy. Social discrimination, however, proved galling to sensitive souls like Buddha and he had the courage to denounce the caste system as tyranny and exploitation. He won to himself millions of adherents and the caste-idea received a big jolt. But Buddhism was exiled and the idea was once again rehabilitated. Scores of reformers have come and made breaches in the citadel. Islam, Sikhism and now Gandhi, all have propagated against the injustice and inequity of the idea and succeeded to some extent. But the idea has re-incarnated itself in an economic garb. The Industrial Revolution, at first in Europe and now in India has created two castes, the rich and the poor and the cleavage is pronounced. The new upsurge of socialism in the world may narrow down the disparities of wealth and income and then the two castes may come closer together. The winds of rebellion are shaking all shores, spelling danger to castes and inequalities.

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Argumentative Questions **ON** **CURRENT PROBLEMS**

- **Can Military Expenditure be Cut ?**
- **U.N. Assembly Sessions—Futile Exercise ?**
- **Giants or Pygmies: Which are Better ?**
- **Age of Marriage and Population Reduction**

Can Military Expenditure be Cut ?

Q. The ever-mounting military budgets of the Big Powers indicate that the expenditure on arms and armaments will never be reduced. Give arguments For and Against this view.

Ans. Recently the U.S. Congress passed a Bill authorising the U.S. Government to spend over 36,000 million dollars on purchasing arms and armaments in the 1979 fiscal year. The total military budget of the USA for the year has been put at 130,000 million dollars against 118,500 million in the current year, showing an increase of about 12,000 million dollars in the course of a single year. The armaments industry has, in fact, become one of the most flourishing industries in the USA, and any move that envisages a reduction in armaments implies a setback to that country's armaments manufacturers, and hence it is not actively pursued. Similarly, the military budgets of several other countries are rising year by year, quashing the hopes of millions of peacemakers who have been pursuing campaigns for disarmament or at least limitation of military weapons. The vested interests in the development of the armaments industry

counter all drives for peace settlement. In such circumstances what hope can there be of a reduction in the world's total armaments budgets ?

Arguments For

1. With military spending soaring from year to year and each Big Power and even the small and medium powers proposing an increase in their military budgets, the prospects of any cut in arms expenditure may be virtually ruled out. The tragedy is that even while talking of disarmament and carrying on negotiations for limiting armaments, no efforts are spared for further developing and perfecting weapons. The hypocrisy, duplicity and deception involved in the exercise are typical of Big Power policies and politics.

2. Each country justifies its increasing military budget by talking of the threat to its safety and security from some foreign power. The U.S. Government talks of the "Soviet threat", warning the people of the imminent risks involved in limiting the army and reducing the production of weapons of all types. On the other hand, the Soviet Union also warns its people of the growing might of the "imperialists", the impressive striking power of NATO and

the larger strength of the air force and tanks of the West. There is no such threat in reality; it is all imaginary, a bogey to ensure more weapons to keep the armaments industry going and never languishing.

3. There is also the argument that more military expenditure has a stabilising influence on various regimes, for instance, in the extent of employment it guarantees. The employment, actual and potential, of arms factories is considered important, especially because the unemployment problem continues to baffle even the most well-planned and developed economies of the Western countries.

4. Since the USA and certain other countries manufacture armaments not only for their own armed forces but also for exports to West Asian, African and Eastern nations, more and more orders are being booked for such factories. Closing these factories is unthinkable; that is why the Big Powers feed the arms race in all parts of the world and keep their military establishments at feverish pitch.

5. There is also the element of high profitability. It has been calculated that the American arms manufacturers are making much higher percentage profits than industries engaged in mak-

ing consumer or capital goods. According to a recent study, while in 1976 the net profits of the giant American multinational and other corporations averaged 20 to 33 per cent, those of the 164 military-industrial corporations alone reached between 50 and 200 per cent. Thus expansion of arms factories is regarded as a major cause of American prosperity. Cuts in production are unthinkable in the circumstances.

Arguments Against

1. The remarkable success and prosperity of the armaments industry may be a fact, but at what social and economic cost is this success being promoted? Is it fair and just that war magnates and war lords should be allowed, year after year, to mint money at the cost of others, to extract unprecedented super profits from such inhuman activity? If profits are the sole concern and the principal determinant, perhaps the various Big Powers should also be allowed to manufacture more intoxicants, more liquor and publish more pornographic literature which ruins the people's morals but which are discouraged by law and other means as injurious to society and the people's character. Man does not live by bread alone; what is the use of talking about morals, character and the general uplift of society if profiteering is the sole objective?

2. Is it not a distinctly criminal and anti-social act to manufacture and sell arms on an ever-expanding scale to various nations, some of which cannot afford their heavy military budgets, by encouraging fears of aggression from neighbours most of which are baseless. All talk of acquiring strength is deceptive; while one nation acquires more planes and tanks to ensure its "safety and security", the other also orders more and more, thus encouraging a suicidal competition that

benefits only the arms manufacturers of the Big Powers.

3. It has now been found that unemployment in countries which have a high level of military production is much higher than in other countries. Again, it has been found that while one billion dollars invested in military industries guarantees 45,800 jobs, the same billion, if earmarked for the people's municipal needs, generates 98,000 jobs. Thus every billion set apart for military purposes "eats up" about 52,000 jobs for civilians.

4. Since every dose of military expenditure merely feeds the appetite for more armaments, it creates a vicious circle which is ruining the economy of many countries. One can imagine the immense social good that would result to the mass of hungry, shelterless and distressed humanity if the arms factories were to be gradually closed down.

U.N. Assembly Sessions— Futile Exercise ?

Q. The U.N. is fast acquiring the reputation of the world's most futile debating chamber where there is much talk but little action. Was the 33rd session of the Assembly also a futile exercise ? Give arguments *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. Debates in the United Nations, its General Assembly and various committees and organisations no longer draw much public attention and even newspapers devote just a few paragraphs to the proceedings even though this organisation is supposed to discuss and decide many weighty issues of war and peace affecting millions of people around the globe. The discussions have become stale and routine; the line of approach of each country is well known; and pre-prepared printed speeches are read out by the delegates one after the other, with no one paying any attention to what is

happening there. In fact, the speeches and declarations made by the delegates of each country are repeated year after year, and the previous year's speeches might as well be repeated without making any difference to the proceedings or the outcome. The futility of the exercise is becoming apparent, but the U.N. expenditure on maintaining the empty show continues to be very high. The U.N. has, to all intents and purposes, become an expensive and avoidable luxury, the results being totally out of proportion to the money being spent on it. For instance, the 33rd session of the U.N. General Assembly which started in September, 1978, and continued for about four months, achieved little.

Arguments For the View

1. The futility of the prolonged discussions in the U.N., especially in the General Assembly, where 151 countries are represented by gaily dressed delegates of all hues, is becoming apparent. The net gains for peace are very little, and the importance of the Assembly is fading out year by year. The only U.N. body that attracts some attention is the Security Council where all the Big Powers and several of the medium and smaller powers are represented. Even if the Assembly were wound up, it would make little difference to world peace and economic progress.

2. Most of the effective measures for peace, settlement of disputes, understandings between nations, decisions on aid, etc., are taken outside the United Nations. What is the point in maintaining this white elephant, a mere showpiece, when it does precious little for the happiness and welfare of mankind and when it can neither prevent nor stop wars? Aggressors can invade countries (as Vietnamese forces attacked and captured Cambodia), to p p l e

regimes with impunity at their sweet will, expand their spheres of influence, sign treaties by utterly ignoring the United Nations, what useful purpose does the General Assembly serve?

3. The U.N. Assembly has discussed every year the need of a new World International Order, the need for ensuring a more equitable distribution of the world's resources, full protection to the minorities and of weak countries against Big Power designs and their global strategies; and yet things continue as before. The U.S., on finding that the U.N. Assembly is dominated by the Third World, just ignores it, even though formally participating in its proceedings and contributing to its expenses a large slice, as usual.

4. History is strewn with the wreckage of well-meaning and even expensive attempts at international organisations which are supposed to transcend State boundaries which are started with much enthusiasm but which fade out into oblivion after a few years. The U.N. has met with a similar fate. When there is no willingness on the part of most countries to accept the verdict of such an organisation and to adopt only such policies as suit each member individually, it would be better to wind up the grand debating chamber. The tussle between the power blocs continues and the rest of the world helplessly watches the farce.

5. Even a resolution supported by China, the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R., India and European Community—having 91% of the world's population can be defeated by 9% people.

Arguments Against the View

1. Each session, even of the U.N. General Assembly, helps the aggrieved nations of the world to voice their views, assert their personalities, expose the wrongs and injustices being per-

petrated by the Big Powers; and it is pointless to contend that the discussions and debates at the United Nations serve no purpose. But for the fear of exposure at the U.N., there would be many more atrocities, many more illegal acts by aggressors and selfish countries and many more unsettled disputes among nations. The U.N. may not have been able to resolve many of the disputes between nations but it has helped to ease tensions and prepare the ground for settlements. The habit and temper at the U.N. are helpful in lessening tensions, promoting the protection of refugees, minorities and other weaker sections of people around the globe.

2. To quote the instance of the 33rd Assembly session, which has been described by some people as particularly futile, the session discussed a wide range of questions, including the arms race and the promotion of disarmament. The session passed more than 40 resolutions on issues affecting the entire world. It is true that mere resolutions break no bones and these need to be followed up by concrete action, but until the various Governments become fully responsible and fully assume the obligations to implement the resolutions, is it not better that constant reminders should continue in the hope that their conscience will be awakened some day? To give up the effort would mean surrendering to a counsel of despair.

3. As many as 105 States supported the Soviet resolution on the non-development of nuclear weapons on the territories of States where they are not found at present. NATO Powers and also China opposed the move, but the majority view was apparent. Again, the developing countries supported the Soviet move on strengthening of security guarantees to non-nuclear States. The U.S.A., the U.K. and France opposed

the resolution for selfish reasons, but exposed themselves in the process. But a resolution was passed inviting the Committee on Disarmament to consider the Soviet and other proposals. As many as 137 nations backed the resolution.

4. Public opinion is being steadily, almost imperceptibly built up. As for the "futility" of passing resolutions which are not later implemented, the fault is not of the U.N. but of the members which pursue only selfish policies and repeatedly queer the pitch for lasting world peace.

Giants or Pygmies: Which are Better?

Q. The latest information about the industrial giants—the big houses—indicates that their profits are going up and that they are getting richer and richer even as a large number of small and medium enterprises are just managing to keep their heads above water. Should the giant establishments continue to flourish, or should restrictions be placed on their prosperity?

Ans. The debate about the relative merits and demerits of giant industrial establishments and the "pygmies"—the small and medium enterprises—is decades old. Both types have certain advantages and disadvantages, and much depends upon the ideological approach, the general state of the economy, the attitude of the people, the policy of the Government and certain other factors. The question has now come to the fore following the disclosure in February, 1979, that the total assets of giant establishments, especially the big houses of the Tatas and the Birlas, have increased by leaps and bounds. The Tatas increased their assets from Rs. 641.93 crores in 1972 to Rs. 980.77 crores in 1976. The Tata group's total turnover was the

highest in the country—Rs. 1,138 crores against Rs. 682 crores in 1972. Similarly, the Birlas have increased their overall assets from Rs. 590 crores in 1972 to Rs. 1,122 crores in 1976. Thus the giants are getting richer and richer. How far is this in the national interest? What happens to the so-called socialist economy?

Arguments For Big Houses

1. One should not be carried away by the figures of the total turnover of the country's giant industrial establishments. After all, there are only a few companies in the private sector which have made good, managed their enterprises efficiently, gradually and legally expanded their business, made the best use of resources, such as raw material and manpower. They have shown how industries should be managed, economically and efficiently. That is the secret of their large profits and fast expansion, not grabbing or exploitation of the weak.

2. The giant industrial establishments, especially the Tatas, have provided employment to thousands of people on good terms. The Tatas are known as ideal employers, managing things efficiently, treating their workers well and avoiding profiteering and exploitation of the workers or of the market or the consumer. They have set an example for the public sector.

3. India has a mixed economy and this is the Government's avowed policy. So the private sector has a vital role to play and it is pointless to accuse the giant private firms of monopolistic tendencies, especially when the Government has a full-fledged Monopolies Commission which seeks to prevent the exercise of monopolies in industrial production and concentration of wealth. All the business is controlled by the Government, and either Government or semi-

Government agencies, like the L.I.C. or the banks or large groups of the public are shareholders of giant firms; so there is a regular distribution of profits. There is no exclusive ownership as a result of public and private limited companies. The accounts are also regularly audited; so the Government is able to keep a watchful eye on their operations.

4. It is also futile to contend that the profits of the big companies are not shared. In fact, the gains get spread out in the community through (a) heavy corporate and other taxation, which means a large slice of the profits goes to the Government; and (b) through the distribution of dividends among the thousands of shareholders of companies many of whom are middle class people in no way related to the firm's owners or managers.

5. The economic gain to society through successful industrial enterprises is immense. But for these companies, many types of goods would not be manufactured or the prices would be very high if the production were taken up by the highly wasteful public sector where there is more staff than needed, gross inefficiency and even corrupt practices of many types.

Arguments Against

1. The contention that the profits of the giant companies are shared by the community at large is not well founded; most of the profits go to the owners, their relatives, stooges, dummies and a limited section of well-to-do people, the shareholders. A person of average means cannot possess company shares or can at least buy only a few units; the really large holdings are in the hands of people who are well off; they manoeuvre the affairs of the firm and get richer and richer.

2. The continued and seemingly permanent existence of

giant enterprises is incompatible with the Socialist ideologies of the country and all talk of an equitable distribution of wealth, of redressing the disparities and eliminating poverty. In fact, there is a certain amount of hypocrisy involved in the word and deed.

3. Despite all talk of worker participation in the management of large enterprises, the proprietors have all the control in their own hands and often pursue anti-worker policies. As a result of the Government's policies the big enterprises continue to thrive while the small industries are either starved of raw materials or of power, and they also suffer owing to the lack of adequate technical know-how. The competition is obviously unequal and unfair. The giants' methods of economy of scale leave little chance for smaller units whose cost of production is higher and their marketing problems far more acute.

Age of Marriage and Population Reduction

Q. The Government of India, like the Governments of other countries, believes that by raising the age of marriage spectacular falls in the birth-rate can be assured or the rate of increase in population can be reduced. Give arguments For and Against this belief.

A n s. Both demographers and social reformers believe that raising the age of marriage is desirable to reduce the rate in the growth of population by curtailing the period of fertility. In India the Child Marriage Restraint Act has been amended twice in recent years to raise the age of marriage in the belief that the birth-rate would fall. The latest amendment raised the minimum marriage age from 15 to 18 for girls and from 18 to 21 in the case of boys. This seems reasonable enough, but apart

from the difficulty of enforcement in the rural areas, where, generally, early marriages take place for social and economic reasons, there is also the net effect on the rate of increase in the population. If experience shows that the laws raising the age of marriage are not having the desired effect, is it any use spending all the energies that are now being spent on discussing, passing and enforcing legislation for this purpose?

Arguments For

1. There seems to be no doubt that early marriages and a low minimum age of marriage lead to more children since the births start early and last throughout the period of fertility. In Western countries people marry late, in fact quite late, and the rate of increase of population there is low as compared to the 2 or even 3 per cent annual growth rate in countries like India. Late marriages naturally reduce the period during which women can bear children: the shorter this period the better from the standpoint of keeping the birth-rate under control. Kerala, for instance, has the lowest birth-rate and it has a high average marriage age.

2. Early marriages not only create social and economic problems of many kinds but also ruin the prospects of youth of making good careers by compelling attention on family problems during the very years when the young man, in particular, should devote himself either to higher studies or to attaining higher career qualifications. More mouths to feed mean more problems for the Government and thus offset all the gains of economic planning. Even while there are gains on the agricultural and industrial fronts, the necessity of housing, education and feeding more people means a colossal task for the Government. This also imposes a burden on society as a whole.

3. From the standpoint of the health of both mother and child it is considered desirable that children should be born when girls are adults and not too young; and the spacing out of children as part of the family planning processes is deemed equally essential to limit the number of children to ensure their happiness, sound upbringing and adequate provisions for their education and training.

4. It is estimated that the world's population will double in another 40 years or so, with 8,438 million mouths to feed, while the world's resources are unlikely to grow proportionately. Hence the urgency of remedial action.

Arguments Against

1. The enforcement of a higher marriage age is a tough problem in the vast countryside where about three-fourths of the people live. Even when the 1929 Sarda Act was in force the law was flagrantly flouted, and very few people were hauled up for disregarding the restriction. Census figures show that although the Child Marriage Restriction Act raised the age in 1953 to 15 years for girls, 21 per cent of women in 1961 and 12 per cent in 1971 were found to have married during 10 to 14 years of age.

2. While a woman's reproductive age begins at puberty (13 or 14 years), the period of three or four years after attaining puberty, it has been found, is the time when the rate of infertility is at its highest. Thus a fall in the birth rate as a result of a rise in the marriage age may make only a marginal difference—hardly worth all the expense and energy spent on such laws.

3. The real factor that leads to a lower birth rate and a fall in the rate of growth of the population is female literacy; it has been found that this is the basic reason for the low rate of popu-

lation increase in the tiny State of Kerala. So what is really needed is a concerted drive for spreading education among women. It is the growing education among women that has made Kerala what it is; half the number of Kerala women are now literate against the national average of 20 per cent. Higher education promotes late marriages and a tendency to have small families.

Model Paragraphs

(Contd. from page 521)

Civilization is the lamb's skin in which barbarism masquerades.

—Aldrich (1903)

A civilization is not to be judged by its glitter and pomp, its gigantic installations or huge dams, its giant-liners or space-rockets. The true yard-stick is the quality of men and women which it produces. The affluence of Roman Civilization or the mechanization in Egyptian civilization could not save them from annihilation. The present civilization has forged weapons for its own destruction. In fact it is barbarism beneath the thin veneer of civilization. When Timur or Chengiz Khan boasted that they had built victory towers of human skulls and when the present rulers of America and USSR proclaim that they possess stock-piles of nuclear bombs which can destroy the earth several times over, the difference is one of tweedledum and tweedle-dee. There is the same iniquitous thirst for the neighbour's blood and the same fear of calamity overtaking human beings. How correctly has a modern writer summed up the situation: 'A few suits of clothes, some money in the bank, and a new kind of fear constitute the main difference between the average American today and the hairy men with clubs who accompanied Attila to the city of Rome' (and destroyed it).

Intelligence TEST

1. What countries do people with the following nicknames come from?

Pommy Macaroni Taffy
Kiwi Paddy Digger

2. The object is to reduce each word in length one letter at a time until you have reduced it as far as you can. Every letter deleted must leave a new word, one letter shorter; and the order of letters must not be changed.

Example: --MANAGER:
manage, mange, mane, man, an, a

- (a) CRACKLED.....
(b) BOUNCE.....
(c) CAROUSE.....
(d) WAIST.....

3. What have these in common?

Mysore, Lahore, Bangalore, Ferozepore, Galore

4. Which word in the second group belongs to the first group?

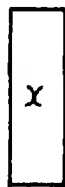
EMBATTLE IMPERATIVE
OSTEO (1st Group.)

EPIDEMIC FESTIVE UN-
DATE ORTHODOX JOL-
LY EMPEROR (2nd Group.)

5. Which letter is out of place?

T A M
L H W
V E N

6. Which of the numbered figures at the bottom belongs to X?



7. Unscramble the following. (Clue: They can both be found in a hospital.)

STANTETEAIHII
DIETPAANRIHAC

8. What is the missing letter in the series below?

- (a) AB EF I — OP UV
(b) A E I — Q

9. Complete the series.

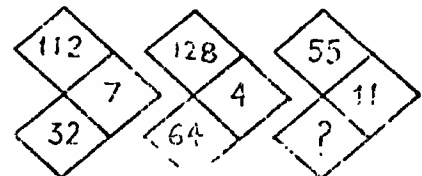
- (a) 18 20 24 32 —
(b) 212 179 146 113 —

10. The totals across are correct. There are one or two figures wrong in the columns or in the totals *below the line*. Find out the wrong numbers and make suitable corrections.

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \ 8 \ 2 = 16 \\ 6 \ 7 \ 9 = 20 \\ 1 \ 3 \ 4 = 8 \end{array}$$

$$12 \ 57 \ 15 \quad 44$$

11. Insert the missing number.



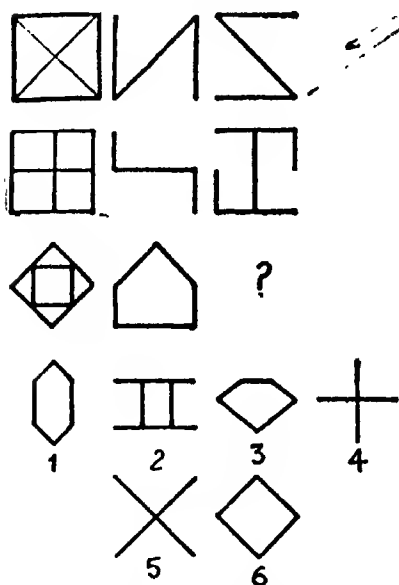
12. What number should replace x?

$$6 \ 10 \ 7 \ 12 \ 8 \ x$$

13. Twelve boxes each contain 100 bolts which should weigh one pound each. Careless packing has, however, resulted in the 100 bolts in one of the boxes weighing only 15 ounce each, but this box is not identifiable.

A pair of scales is available but is of the pointer variety registering on a dial marked in pounds and ounces; it will weigh up to one hundred weight. What is the least number of weighing necessary to isolate the box containing the wrongly packed box?

14. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



15. The question below starts with a statement which is followed by three conclusions. You are to assume that the statement is correct. Any conclusion you consider true and logical according to the statement, mark T. Any conclusion you consider not necessarily true according to the statement, mark F.

When B is larger than C, X is smaller than C. But C is never larger than B. Therefore:

- (a) X is never larger than B.
- (b) X is never smaller than B.
- (c) X is never smaller than C.

16. Write the number of the pair which is different from the others.

- (a) Relish and Enjoy.
- (b) Approve and Esteem.
- (c) Detest and Loathe.
- (d) Fancy and Love.

17. At times you pretend to know more than you do. True or False?

18. What word completes the first word and begins the second? (Both words are

names of occupations.)

SUPERINTEN (....) IST

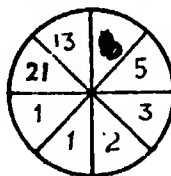
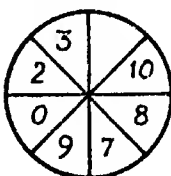
19. What is the odd man out here?

ABA EEP OMO SUS BEE

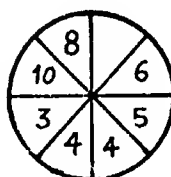
20. Separate the Indian and Pakistani cricketers.

AMAVGUSHASTKORA
SVIASRWFARNAZAHT

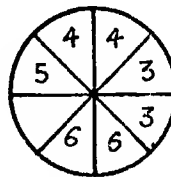
21. What numbers (up to 10) fill the blank sections?



B



C



D

22. If LAME=MALE then DOME= ?

23. Write the serial number of any one of the statements below that you believe to be correct. ATOMS ARE BELIEVED TO BE COMPOSED OF:

- (a) Protons, neutrons and electrons.
- (b) Protons and electrons.
- (c) Positrons, neutrons and electrons.
- (d) Protons and antiprotons.

24. What does the phrase *op. cit.* mean?

Answers & Explanations

1. P o m m y. (A nickname used for an Englishman by Australians and New Zealanders.)
Macaroni. (An Italian—nickname coined by British soldiers.)
Taffy. (A person from Wales.)
Kiwi. (A New Zealander.)
Paddy. (A person from Ireland.)

Digger. (A person from Australia or New Zealand—nickname coined by British soldiers during the First World War.)

2. (a) Cracked, racked, raced, race, ace.
(b) Ounce, once, one, on.
(c) Arouse, rouse, ruse, use, us.
(d) Wait, wit, it, I.
3. They all end with letters RE.
4. UNDATE. (All the other words in the 1st group start and end with a vowel. UNDATE is the only word in the 2nd group that conforms to that pattern.)
5. N. (There are two strokes in making up the first letter, three strokes make the second letter and four strokes *should* make the third letter; N has only three strokes.)
6. 1. (The shapes are moved progressively upwards, the top shape becoming the bottom shape with each move. The top row indicates the manner in which the shaded and white shapes are varied and the bottom row conforms to this, except that shaded takes the place of white and vice versa.)
7. ANAESTHETIST, PAEDIATRICIAN
8. (a) J (b) M
9. (a) 48. (Add 2, 4, 8, and finally 16.)
(b) 80. (Subtract 33 from each number.)
10. 6 8 2=16
5 6 9=20
1 3 4=8
- 12 17 15=44
11. 10. (Take the number on top, divide it by the number on the right and double the remainder.)

(Contd. on page 549)

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examination for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice out of the choices given below each question. More than one choices can be correct.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. The 18th World Management Congress was held in December 1978 at:
 - (a) London
 - (b) New York
 - (c) New Delhi
2. The Lok Sabha passed the Constitution 45th Amendment Bill (re-numbered as the 44th Amendment Bill) on December 7, 1978:
 - (a) as amended by the Rajya Sabha
 - (b) without consulting the Rajya Sabha
 - (c) as desired by the Prime Minister
3. "Diplomat of the Year" award for 1977 has been conferred upon:
 - (a) Jimmy Carter, President of the U.S.A.
 - (b) Menachem Begin, Prime Minister of Israel
 - (c) Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the U.N.O.
4. Which of the following Caribbean Islands was voted unanimously by the Security Council on December 6, 1978 to be admitted as the 151st member of the U.N.O.:
 - (a) Belize
 - (b) Grenada
 - (c) Dominica
5. Which of the following punishments can be awarded by the Lok Sabha to a person held guilty by it of breach of privileges or contempt of the House:
 - (a) to imprison him till the House is prorogued
 - (b) to expel him from the House thereby declaring his seat vacant
 - (c) to impose a fine on him
6. China and the Soviet Union had signed a 30-year Treaty of Friendship in:
 - (a) 1950
 - (b) 1960
 - (c) 1962
7. According to Choksi Committee report, the reduction of tax rates in the recent years:
 - (a) has resulted in fall of revenue
 - (b) has not led to any fall in revenue
 - (c) has increased the revenue through voluntary compliance
8. Who, among the following, have won Arjuna Award 1977-78:
 - (a) Sunil Gavaskar
 - (b) G.R. Vishwanath
 - (c) Kapil Dev
 - (d) Satish Kumar
9. The VIII Asian Games were held in December 1978 at:
 - (a) Manila
 - (b) Teheran
 - (c) Bangkok
10. In the final medals tally in the VIII Asian Games, India achieved the:
 - (a) fifth position
 - (b) sixth position
 - (c) seventh position
11. In the VIII Asian Games, India won:
 - (a) 11 gold, 11 silver and six bronze medals
 - (b) 12 gold, 12 silver and seven bronze medals
 - (c) 11 gold, 10 silver and 8 bronze medals
12. In the Seventh International Film Festival held in New Delhi in January 1979, the "Best Actor" award has been won by:
 - (a) Billy Wilder
 - (b) Shankar Nag
 - (c) Zoltan Fabri
13. The chairman of the jury at the Seventh International Film Festival was:
 - (a) Satyajit Ray (of India)
 - (b) Girish Karnad (of India)
 - (c) Ousmane Sembene (of Senegal)
14. The second World Hindu Conference was held in January 1979 at:
 - (a) Allahabad

- (b) Varanasi
- (c) Rishikesh

15. H.S. Vatsyayan, who has been awarded the 14th Jnanpith Award for 1978, is editor of:

- (a) Hind Samachar
- (b) Saptahik Hindustan
- (c) Navbharat Times

INDIAN HISTORY

16. Chandragupta defeated and killed Dhan Nanda in:

- (a) 344 B.C.
- (b) 325 B.C.
- (c) 322 B.C.

17. Ashoka ruled India between:

- (a) 273-232 B.C.
- (b) 263-232 B.C.
- (c) 273-222 B.C.

18. Seleucus was one of the generals of:

- (a) Chandragupta Maurya
- (b) Dhan Nanda
- (c) Alexander

19. The real name of Chanakya was:

- (a) Vaisakhadatta
- (b) Vishnu Gupta
- (c) Vasubandhu

20. The book Indika was written by:

- (a) Seleucus
- (b) Megasthenes
- (c) Kalidas

21. Kanishka ascended the throne in about:

- (a) 130 A.D.
- (b) 120 B.C.
- (c) 120 A.D.

22. Christianity was introduced in India by:

- (a) St. Thomas
- (b) St. Peter
- (c) St. Paul

23. Fahien came to India during the reign of:

- (a) Chandragupta Maurya
- (b) Chandragupta Vikramaditya
- (c) Samudragupta

24. Parsis came to India in:

- (a) 1st century A.D.

- (b) 7th century A.D.
- (c) 9th century A.D.

25. Rajyavardhana, the elder brother of Harsha, was murdered by:

- (a) Sasank, the King of Bengal
- (b) Grahavarman of Kannauj
- (c) Devagupta of Malwa

26. Harsha was defeated by Pulakesin II in:

- (a) 630 A.D.
- (b) 622 A.D.
- (c) 632 A.D.
- (d) 620 A.D.

27. Heiun-Tsang became a monk at the age of:

- (a) 30
- (b) 20
- (c) 35
- (d) 18

28. The number of students in Nalanda University was about:

- (a) 1,000
- (b) 10,000
- (c) 100,000

29. The founder of the kingdom ruled by Prithviraj Chauhan was:

- (a) Prithviraj Chauhan
- (b) Visalayaadeva
- (c) Govindchandra
- (d) Chand Bardai

30. The political organisation of Rajputs was based on:

- (a) Feudal System
- (b) Ryotwari System
- (c) Democratic System

31. The Khajuraho temples were built by Chandella rulers between:

- (a) 800-1500 A.D.
- (b) 900-1150 A.D.
- (c) 800-1150 A.D.

32. The Jain Temples in Mount Abu were built by the ministers of:

- (a) Chandella Rulers
- (b) Solanki Rulers
- (c) Rashtrakuta Rulers
- (d) Chola Rulers

33. The Lingaraja temple is situated at:

- (a) Konarak
- (b) Puri
- (c) Bhubaneswar

34. The mighty gateways found in the temples of South India are called:

- (a) Shikhars
- (b) Gopurams
- (c) Devalya

35. The temples built by Hoysalas are:

- (a) square shaped
- (b) triangle shaped
- (c) star shaped

36. Mahmud of Ghazni attacked India first in:

- (a) 1000 A.D.
- (b) 2000 A.D.
- (c) 1500 A.D.

37. Muhammad Ghori was the ruler of:

- (a) Persia
- (b) Iraq
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) Pakistan

38. The second battle of Tarain was fought in:

- (a) 1191 A.D.
- (b) 1190 A.D.
- (c) 1192 A.D.
- (d) 1193 A.D.

39. Qutab-ud-Din Aibak became independent ruler in:

- (a) 1210 A.D.
- (b) 1205 A.D.
- (c) 1206 A.D.
- (d) 1197 A.D.

40. The Mongols appeared for the first time on the banks of the Indus during the rule of:

- (a) Qutab-ud-Din Aibak
- (b) Altmash
- (c) Razia
- (d) Balban

WORLD HISTORY

41. The first (old) Babylonian Empire was established in:

- (a) 3000 B.C.
- (b) 2000 B.C.
- (c) 1000 B.C.

42. Russian revolution took place in:

- (a) 1916
- (b) 1917.
- (c) 1918

43. The Great Wall of China was built as a protection against the:

- (a) Huns •
- (b) Vandals
- (c) Kouei-Choueng

44. Battle of Midway Island was a decisive Naval engagement between:

- (a) U.S.A. and England
- (b) U.S.A. and Japan•
- (c) England and Japan

45. Ottoman Empire is the name generally given to the:

- (a) Russian Empire
- (b) British Empire
- (c) Turkish Empire•
- (d) Muslim Empire

46. The Treaty of London was signed between:

- (a) British and Dutch subjects
- (b) British and Belgium subjects•
- (c) Dutch and Belgium subjects •

47. The Opium War is the name given to the fighting between:

- (a) Britain and China •
- (b) China and Russia
- (c) Russia and Britain

48. John F. Kennedy was assassinated in:

- (a) 1962
- (b) 1963•
- (c) 1964

49. The Abdication crisis of 1963 in England arose from the desire of:

- (a) King Edward VIII to marry Mrs Simpson•
- (b) King Edward VI to marry Mrs Simpson
- (c) King Edward VI to marry Mrs Irwin

50. The Battle of El Alamein was fought in:

- (a) 1943

(b) 1942•

(c) 1941

51. Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States in:

- (a) 1861
- (b) 1862
- (c) 1860.

52. The Second world war was started in:

- (a) 1939•
- (b) 1940
- (c) 1945

53. Mount Everest, the world's highest peak, was conquered in:

- (a) May 1953 •
- (b) June 1953
- (c) May 1954

54. Columbus died in:

- (a) 1507
- (b) 1508
- (c) 1506.

55. The French revolution took place in:

- (a) 1798
- (b) 1789•
- (c) 1790

56. The Seven Year's war between France and England was fought during:

- (a) 1756-63•
- (b) 1757-64
- (c) 1754-62

57. The First World War ended in:

- (a) 1918 •
- (b) 1914
- (c) 1916

58. The Constitution of America was drawn up through the efforts of:

- (a) Alexander Cunningham
- (b) Alexander Hamilton•
- (c) George Washington

59. Napoleon received the title of Emperor in:

- (a) 1802
- (b) 1808
- (c) 1804.

60. In 1144 A.D. Edessa was recaptured by the Turks. This event led to the:

- (a) 1st Crusade
- (b) 2nd Crusade•
- (c) 3rd Crusade

GEOGRAPHY

61. Acid igneous rocks contain high percentage of:

- (a) silica.
- (b) iron
- (c) quartz

62. The rock material accumulated in a heap at the terminus of a glacier is called:

- (a) Piedmont
- (b) Terminal moraine •
- (c) Lateral moraine

63. An arm-chair shaped hollow which is enlarged and deepened by a glacier is called:

- (a) Cirque•
- (b) Delta
- (c) Piedmont

64. The Grand Canyon of the river Colorado is:

- (a) 420 km long
- (b) 120 km long
- (c) 320 km long.

65. The deltas of the Nile, Ganga, Indus, Irrawady and Hwangho are of:

- (a) arcuate type •
- (b) estuarine type
- (c) bird's foot digitate type

66. Ox-bow lakes are formed by a river during:

- (a) upper course
- (b) middle course •
- (c) lower course

67. Malaspina Glacier is in:

- (a) Karakoram Range
- (b) Alps
- (c) Alaska.

68. The grinding action of sand driven by the wind is called:

- (a) Deflation
- (b) Abrasion
- (c) Attrition•

69. The funnel shaped hollow at the top of a volcano rock is known as:

- (a) crater•
- (b) vent
- (c) dyke
- (d) cone

70. Hot springs are found in great number in:

- (a) Karst regions of Yugoslavia
- (b) Yellow Stone Park, U.S.A..
- (c) Rockies (U.S.A.)
- (d) Formosa Islands

71. If the water supply of a spring is continuous the spring is known as:

- (a) intermittent
- (b) geyser
- (c) perennial

72. Soil which is caused due to the depositional activity of a stream is called:

- (a) podzol
- (b) chestnut
- (c) alluvium

73. The chemical process in which some of the minerals are dissolved by the water is called:

- (a) oxidation
- (b) solution
- (c) hydration

74. Soils which are found in the coniferous forests, extending in the broad belts across North America and the U.S.S.R are called:

- (a) podzols
- (b) chernozems
- (c) laterite

75. The direction of wind is determined by an instrument known as:

- (a) Wind Vane
- (b) Anemometer
- (c) Barometer

76. Hot dry south wind, which blows from Sahara to the Mediterranean lands of Southern Europe is called:

- (a) Foehn
- (b) Harmattan
- (c) Siracco
- (d) Minstral

77. "High Pressure" denotes the state of the atmosphere, when the barometer reads about:

- (a) 750 mm or above
- (b) 780 mm or above
- (c) 760 mm or above
- (d) 760 mm

78. The clouds which are like a dark-grey sheet extending from one side of horizon to other and have a uniform base are called:

- (a) cumulus clouds
- (b) cirrus clouds
- (c) nimbus clouds
- (d) stratus clouds

79. The rainfall related to mountains is called:

- (a) orographic rainfall
- (b) cyclonic rainfall
- (c) convectional rainfall

80. Rainfall on a map is shown by:

- (a) isohyets
- (b) isobars
- (c) isotherms

81. When the invisible water vapour changes into water, it is known as:

- (a) condensation
- (b) saturation
- (c) evaporation

82. The innermost layer of earth is called:

- (a) Lithosphere
- (b) Mesosphere
- (c) Core

83. Rocks formed by the solidification of Magma are called:

- (a) Sedimentary rocks
- (b) Igneous rocks
- (c) Metamorphic rocks

84. When the strong winds sweep away all the sand and dust, the bed rocks are exposed. They are known as:

- (a) Hamada
- (b) Reg
- (c) Rock pedestals

85. Marine dunes are seen at the coasts of:

- (a) India
- (b) Netherlands
- (c) East Germany

86. The dense equatorial forests are known as:

- (a) Taigas
- (b) Prairies
- (c) Salves

ANSWERS

(Current Affairs)

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (a) |
| 3. (c) | 4. (c) |
| 5. (a) and (b) | 6. (a) |
| 7. (b) and (c) | 8. (b) and (d) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (c) | 14. (a) |
| 15. (c) | |

(Indian History)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 16. (c) | 17. (a) |
| 18. (c) | 19. (b) |
| 20. (b) | 21. (c) |
| 22. (a) | 23. (b) |
| 24. (c) | 25. (a) |
| 26. (d) | 27. (b) |
| 28. (b) | 29. (b) |
| 30. (a) | 31. (b) |
| 32. (b) | 33. (c) |
| 34. (b) | 35. (c) |
| 36. (a) | 37. (c) |
| 38. (c) | 39. (c) |
| 40. (b) | |

(World History)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 41. (b) | 42. (b) |
| 43. (a) | 44. (b) |
| 45. (c) | 46. (c) |
| 47. (a) | 48. (b) |
| 49. (a) | 50. (b) |
| 51. (c) | 52. (a) |
| 53. (a) | 54. (c) |
| 55. (b) | 56. (a) |
| 57. (a) | 58. (b) |
| 59. (c) | 60. (b) |

(Geography)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 61. (a) | 62. (b) |
| 63. (a) | 64. (c) |
| 65. (a) | 66. (b) |
| 67. (c) | 68. (c) |
| 69. (a) | 70. (b) |
| 71. (c) | 72. (c) |
| 73. (b) | 74. (a) |
| 75. (a) | 76. (c) |
| 77. (c) | 78. (d) |
| 79. (a) | 80. (a) |
| 81. (a) | 82. (c) |
| 83. (b) | 84. (a) |
| 85. (b) | 86. (c) |

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Pick out the correct alternative for the blank space in each sentence. Indicate it by its number.

(a) I have always disliked _____ to the pictures.

1. you going
2. your going
3. you went

(b) His coat was threadbare because he _____ it for five years.

1. wore
2. has worn
3. had worn

(c) _____ afraid of the dark, Henry ran all the way home.

1. having been
2. being
3. to be

(d) At the close of the war it was estimated that over a million men _____ killed.

1. were
2. had been
3. was

(e) They found only two persons in the office; the Secretary and _____.

1. I
2. me
3. myself

(f) He demanded that his name _____ stricken from the record.

1. should be
2. was
3. be

(g) She looks as if she _____ studying too hard.

1. was

2. were

3. had been

(h) Prices having gone up, you will have to _____ your expenses on non-essentials.

1. cut
2. cut off
3. cut down

(i) The two brothers never loved _____.

1. one another
2. together
3. each other

(j) Distribute these apples _____ these thirty boys.

1. betwixt
2. among
3. between

Q. II. In each of the following sentences a word has been left incomplete. Complete the same, taking a hint from its synonym given in the brackets.

1. She di _____ ted his good name with ugly gossip. (dishonoured)

2. He seemed certain about it yesterday but he is va _____ ing. (hesitating)

3. The hikers had to tr _____ rse the shaky bridge one at a time. (cross)

4. We se _____ led for cover against the sudden rain. (rush)

5. Joan is so cr _____ ous she will believe anything you tell her. (trustful)

6. The number of stars in the universe is in _____ ble. (countless)

7. The boy struggled with a po _____ ous package. (heavy)

8. My sp _____ ift brother pays a fortune for his clothes. (extravagant)

9. The architect received ap _____ ion for his new office-building design. (praise)

10. To their complete co _____ ion the swimmers saw a shark approaching. (alarm)

Q. III. Indicate the sentence (or sentences) which gives the correct meaning of the head word.

(a) *Eligible*

1. Your handwriting is hopelessly eligible.

2. Only graduates are eligible for this post.

3. An eligible child was found under the tree.

(b) *Wrested*

1. With rare courage he wrested the sword from the murderer.

2. After ascending two miles we wrested in a hut.

3. The thief was wrested in a gambling den.

(c) *Pensive*

1. I gave him a very pensive gift.

2. She remained pensive throughout the day.

3. Place this pensive on the writing-table.

(d) *Draught*

1. The boss has rejected my draught.

2. The draught resulted in acute famine all over the State.

3. The draught of fresh air delighted everybody.

(e) *Imminent*

1. We have invited an imminent scholar to preside over our function.

2. There is no imminent prospect of rain.

3. The fall of the Ministry is imminent.

(f) *Incite*

1. He was very much incited when he entered the room.

2. He incited the students to go on a strike.

3. Can you incite an illustration in support of what you say?

(g) *Recollect*

1. With great care I recollected all the coins that had fallen from my purse.

2. Can you recollect the bald-headed teacher in our school?

3. After the bench, the members recollected for a seminar.

(h) *Canvass*

1. You must purchase a pair of canvass shoes for the race.

2. He won the first prize for canvass painting.

3. He is canvassing for his friend from door to door.

(i) *Stimulant*

1. Bonus is intended as a stimulant to greater effort.

2. He has wrecked his body by taking excess of stimulants.

3. Prizes and medals are excellent stimulants.

() *Respectable*

1. He belongs to a respectable family.

2. You should be respectable to your elders.

3. By lunch-time our cricket score was quite respectable.

Q. IV. Complete the following sentences with adjectives ending in —able, —ible, or —ubly derived from the verbs given within brackets. Here and there the negative form of the objective may be necessary.

1. Once they were bosom friends but today they are the most (placate) of enemies.

2. The beautiful sight of the snow-clad hill made an (delete) impression on my mind.

3. Because of heavy losses in business his moods have become very (change).

4. You may try your utmost but I know that his decision is (revoke).

5. It was a (remember) day in the history of our country when with our help Bangladesh won her freedom.

6. The residents of the nearby locality have complained of the (object) smell produced by the tannery.

7. Mahatma Gandhi is no more but his teachings are (destroy).

8. Day changes to night in these latitudes by almost (perceive) stages.

9. When the crowd became (control) the police burst tear-gas shells.

10. After making a number of attempts he felt that Homer was (translate).

Q. V. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

We businessmen have the key in building a new and progressive capitalism. We say we are for a great middle-class economy which means having fewer people at the bottom, fewer at the top, and more in the middle. Then what is wrong

with a decent minimum wage? That is one way of lifting the standards of those at the bottom—isn't it? It is one way of moving more people to the middle.

We say we regret to seek slack times and seasonal employment. We say we are for steadier jobs. Then what is wrong with the annual wage? That is what it means—doesn't it—steady jobs.

We say we really want to see more diffusion of the good things of the world. Then what is wrong with profit-sharing? What is wrong with giving our workers a real incentive to produce more for their own profit—and for yours? We all say we want better home and better education for everybody; that we want higher health standards and security for all in their declining years; that we want all the things which spell real prosperity for all the people.

If we truly want them, there must be ways found to bring them about. I don't say the means I have suggested are cure-alls. I do say, they are things we businessmen must think about if we are to see a future for ourselves in terms of a future for others.

—E.A. Johnson

Q. A. What expression aptly describes the attitude of the writer?

1. capitalist
2. socialist
3. progressive capitalist

Q. B. Tick the suggestions made by the writer to raise the standards of the people.

1. Decent minimum wage
2. Strikes should be declared illegal
3. Wages should be Annual
4. Sharing of profits with the workers
5. Wages should be frozen

(Contd. on page 544)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

1. Radioactivity cannot be detected by a:
 - (a) cloud chamber
 - (b) photographic plate
 - (c) synchrotron.
 - (d) scintillation counter
2. We can see most objects because they:
 - (a) reflect light.
 - (b) emit light
 - (c) absorb light
 - (d) refract light
3. A picture covered with a glass plate cannot be seen so distinctly as one not so covered because the glass:
 - (a) is transparent
 - (b) reflects part of the light.
 - (c) reflects no light
 - (d) absorbs most of the light
4. A beam of light is best diffused by a:
 - (a) mirror
 - (b) rough white surface.
 - (c) rough black surface
 - (d) smooth black surface
5. When sunlight falls on a soap bubble, bright bands of colour are seen. This is caused by:
 - (a) dispersion
 - (b) interference.
 - (c) pigments in the soap
 - (d) refraction
6. Sterling silver is an alloy of silver and:
 - (a) copper.
 - (b) gold
 - (c) tin
 - (d) platinum
7. One can distinguish an element from a compound by their:
 - (a) melting points
 - (b) boiling points
 - (c) conductivity
 - (d) chemical properties.
8. Colloidal carbon absorbs gases rapidly. This may be explained by the fact that it:
 - (a) is black
 - (b) has no odour
 - (c) is a solid
 - (d) has a large surface.
9. A change which releases energy as it occurs is:
 - (a) isothermic
 - (b) exothermic.
 - (c) hypothermic
 - (d) endothermic
10. The property of a body that is independent of its position in the universe is:
 - (a) volume
 - (b) mass.
 - (c) density
 - (d) weight
11. Legumes, such as clover, restore to the soil compounds of:
 - (a) nitrogen.
 - (b) phosphorus
 - (c) potassium
 - (d) sulphur
12. The method of destroying harmful bacteria by heat is known as:
 - (a) distillation
 - (b) culturing
 - (c) sterilisation.
 - (d) fumigation
13. Viruses were first crystallised by:
 - (a) Stanley.
 - (b) Stent
 - (c) Summer
 - (d) Rous
14. Bacteria were first observed by:
 - (a) Pasteur
 - (b) Koch
 - (c) Leeuwenhock.
 - (d) Redi
15. The life functions that a virus apparently performs are:
 - (a) respiration and reproduction.
 - (b) reproduction and locomotion
 - (c) locomotion and respiration
 - (d) excretion and digestion
16. Substances in the blood that neutralise the effects of certain foreign materials are called:
 - (a) antigens
 - (b) antitoxins.
 - (c) toxins
 - (d) toxoids
17. After vaccination, the body builds up:
 - (a) toxins
 - (b) antibodies.
 - (c) lymph
 - (d) plasma
18. Caloric requirements vary according to all of the following except:
 - (a) age
 - (b) intelligence.
 - (c) occupation
 - (d) climate
19. When a person has appendicitis, his blood shows an increase in the number of:
 - (a) enzymes
 - (b) platelets
 - (c) white corpuscles.
 - (d) red corpuscles
20. Digested food is carried in the blood by the:
 - (a) blood platelets
 - (b) plasma.
 - (c) red corpuseles
 - (d) white corpuscles
21. A mineral which contains only silicon and oxygen is:
 - (a) hornblende
 - (b) mica
 - (c) feldspar
 - (d) quartz.

22. The place on the earth's surface directly above the point at which an earthquake originates is the:

- (a) epicentre.
- (b) focus
- (c) Moho
- (d) Zenith

23. Which planet is most similar to Earth in respect to gravity, escape velocity and size?

- (a) Uranus
- (b) Venus.
- (c) Mars
- (d) Neptune

24. Which rock could be formed by deposits of animal shells and skeletons?

- (a) sandstone
- (b) lime stone.
- (c) shale
- (d) basalt

25. At local noon on board a ship, the chronometer reads 3:30 p.m. The longitude of the ship is:

- (a) 37° 30' west
- (b) 45° west
- (c) 52° 30' west.
- (d) 60° west

**Increases (I), Decreases (D),
Remains the same (RS)**

26. As the earth's distance from the sun decreases, its orbital speed:

- (a) decreases
- (b) increases.
- (c) remains the same

27. The velocity of ocean waves:

- (a) increases.
 - (b) decreases
 - (c) remains the same
- as the depth increases.

28. The length of ocean waves:

- (a) increases
 - (b) decreases.
 - (c) remains the same
- as waves approach land masses.

29. On a clear, calm day, as the temperature decreases, the relative humidity:

- (a) increases.

- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

30. As the gradient of a stream increases, its ability to carry materials:

- (a) increases.
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

Explain

31. Why can an astronaut travel outside his space capsule in a spacesuit without being left behind?

32. How does the body make up for lack of oxygen in a rarefied atmosphere?

33. How are the tails of the comets produced?

34. How do submarines descend and ascend?

35. How are cosmic rays injurious to cells?

36. Matching Test

Direction: For each discovery/invention in Column A, write the name of the discoverer/inventor from column B.

Column 'A'

1. Discovery of neutron
2. Cathode Rays
3. Radioactivity
4. Value of e/m
5. Nuclear Charge
6. Mass Spectrograph
7. Positive rays
Positron

Column 'B'

- (a) Goldstein
- (b) A.H. Becquerel
- (c) R.A. Willikan
- (d) J. Chadwick
- (e) H.G. Mosley
- (f) J.J. Thomson
- (g) Aston
- (h) Anderson

Fill in the blanks

37. (a) Milk is irradiated principally to increase its content of vitamin——.

(b) A (n)——is a growth of bacteria visible to the unaided eye.

(c) Bacteriologists refer to a spherical bacterium as a——.

(d) During acute appendicitis, the——blood cell count goes up.

(e) A colony of bacteria in which only one type of bacterium is found is known as a——.

Test your knowledge

38. The extent of the earth's atmosphere above the earth is variously estimated. As one rises from the earth into the atmosphere, the air becomes 1 dense so that at a height of 2 miles, one-half the total weight of the air lies below. The lowest layer of the atmosphere is called the 3. This layer varies in thickness from as much as 4 over the equator to about 5 miles over the poles. This layer of the atmosphere seems to control the 6. Immediately above this lowest layer is the 7 which reaches a distance of about 8 miles. The next layer extending out to 500 miles or more is the 9. The outermost layer is called the 10. It extends to a distance of about 11 miles.

Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

39. (a) IAA
(b) NADP
(c) A°
(d) Psychrometer
(e) Exosphere
(f) Biosphere

ANSWERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (a) |
| 3. (b) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (b) | 6. (a) |
| 7. (d) | 8. (d) |
| 9. (b) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (c) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (c) |
| 15. (a) | 16. (b) |
| 17. (b) | 18. (b) |
| 19. (c) | 20. (b) |
| 21. (d) | 22. (a) |
| 23. (b) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (c) | 26. (b) |

(Contd. on page 544)

General Knowledge Test

Q. 1. Name the following:

(i) the two Deputy Prime Ministers of India and their portfolios;

(ii) Prime Minister of Iran chosen by the Shah of Iran before leaving the country;

(iii) Home Minister of India;

(iv) India's Chief of the Naval Staff;

(v) Health Minister, Indian Union.

Ans. (i) Charan Singh (Finance); Jagjivan Ram (Defence); (ii) Dr Shapur Bakhtiar; (iii) H.M. Patel; (iv) Admiral R.L. Prereira; (v) Rabi Ray.

Q. 2. Who are/were the following:

(i) R.K. Vasudevan Nair; (ii) Gen T.N. Raina; (iii) Katherine Patricia Ruth; (iv) Mrs Golda Meir; (v) Dr Jivraj Mehta; (vi) Shankar Nag; (vii) Ousmane Sembene (of Senegal); (viii) J.R. Jayawardene.

Ans. (i) He is Chief Minister of Kerala.

(ii) He is India's High Commissioner to Canada.

(iii) She is Miss International, 1978.

(iv) She was the former Prime Minister of Israel (died on December 8, 1978).

(v) He was the first Chief

Minister of Gujarat. He died recently.

(vi) He is winner of the Best Actor award at the Seventh International Film Festival held in January 1979 in New Delhi.

(vii) He headed the jury at the Seventh International Film Festival at New Delhi.

(viii) He is President of Sri Lanka.

Q. 3. Would you favour a policy of Prohibition in India? Give reasons in support of your answer.

Ans. Prohibition: The use of liquor has been found very harmful to the human body. It creates a totally false sense of well-being by working as a temporary stimulant, but actually it is a narcotic which paralyses the white cells in the blood and also damages the brain. The consumption of liquor breaks down inhibitions, increases crime, such as revenge, violence, jealousy and lust. It silences the voice of one's conscience.

Alcohol ruins the poor far more rapidly and effectively than the rich and is therefore doubly obnoxious. It is not a fad of the moralists but is an economic necessity because a poor country like India can build up its resources especially capital, only by self-denial.

It is wrong to suppose that the suppression of one evil necessarily leads to emergence of others. Great social advances have taken place in many countries without such outbreaks of evils to replace the use of liquor. Prohibition increases a country's industrial efficiency generally and the prosperity of the working classes in particular. The colossal waste and suffering due to the use of liquor needs to be checked.

Q. 4. What measures have been suggested recently by the government to enforce prohibition?

Ans. Prohibition has been tried in most of the States in India and also in foreign countries. But one by one almost all the States in the country had to abandon their prohibition policy because it was found impracticable in view of the fast-spreading habit of drinking liquor. The excise duties on liquor are now a major source of State revenues and the various governments found they could not sacrifice it for the sake of a principle. After a long break, the Central Government has reiterated the prohibition policy and announced restrictions on the public use of liquor in hotels, hostels, restaurants, clubs and other establishments with the ultimate aim of achieving

total prohibition. The Government wishes to implement the Directive Principle contained in the Constitution in this regard.

Q. 5. Why is Family Planning necessary in India ?

Ans. Family Planning: If the growth of population is unchecked, there would be far more people on this sub-continent than it can ever feed. The country already has about 60 crore people. It is estimated that within a few decades, the population would be doubled unless the growth is effectively checked. The fantastic growth in numbers has thwarted economic progress and made nonsense of whatever economic progress the country has made because the net benefit per head continually falls. The high rate of population growth constitutes an important check on progress towards removal of poverty. It has an adverse impact on domestic savings; it hinders economic growth and leads to further impoverishment of the people. The object of removal of poverty demands effective restraints on population growth.

Q. 6. Describe the power and function of the Supreme Court of India. (About 250 words.)

Ans. Supreme Court: The Supreme Court of India, occupying a place at the apex of the Indian Judicial system, plays a very important role in the constitutional system of India. It acts as the guardian and protector of the citizen's fundamental rights. In case a law passed by the Union Parliament or a state legislature or an executive order encroaches upon or circumscribes the rights and freedoms available to an Indian citizen under the Constitution, the Supreme Court has power to declare such law or order null and void, and prevent the legislature or executive from violating the rights of Indian citizens.

The Supreme Court also has original jurisdiction in dispute (i) between the Government of India and one or more states forming the Union, and (ii) between two or more states. On the appellate side, an appeal from the decision of a High Court lies to it in both civil and criminal cases involving substantial points of law or interpretation of the Constitution.

The Constitution of India has also conferred on the Supreme Court advisory jurisdiction. It can advise the President on any question of law or fact which the latter may refer to it in view of the public importance of the issue.

Q. 7. Explain the procedure for amending the Constitution of India.

Ans. The Constitution of India can be amended under the provisions of Article 368. The amendment may be initiated only by the introduction of a Bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament. The Bill is required to be passed in each House by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting. It is then presented to the President for his assent. After the President has given his assent to the Bill, the Constitution stands amended in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

In certain cases, however, e.g., in case any changes are sought to be made in the provisions relating to the election of the President, the extent of executive power of the Union and/or States, the constitution of High Courts for Union Territories, the representation of States in the Parliament etc., the amendment is also required to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than half of the States.

Q. 8. When is a person disqualified for being chosen as a member of the State Legislative Assembly in India ?

Ans. A person is disqualified for being chosen as a member of the State Legislative Assembly if he: (i) holds an office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State other than an office declared by the Legislature of the State by law not to disqualify its holder, (ii) is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court, (iii) is an undischarged insolvent, (iv) is not a citizen of India, or has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign State, or (v) is so disqualified by or under any law made by Parliament.

Q. 9. What are the functions of the Election Commission? Who is the present Chief Election Commissioner ?

Ans. Election Commission: The functions of the Election Commission are to superintend, direct and control the preparation of electoral rolls and to conduct all elections to Parliament and State Legislatures and also to the office of the President and Vice-President.

Among other functions of the Election Commission are: (i) to lay down general rules for election, (ii) to determine constituencies and to prepare electoral rolls, (iii) to give recognition to the political parties, (iv) to allot election symbols to different political parties and individual contestants, (v) to appoint election tribunals for the decision of doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with elections to Parliament and State Legislature.

Mr S.L. Shukdher is the present Chief Election Commissioner.

Q. 10. What are the functions of the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament ?

Ans. Public Accounts Committee: To assist Parliament in its deliberative and other functions, parliamentary committees are appointed or elected by the

two Houses. Some of these committees deal with financial functions. Of these the most important are the Public Accounts Committee, the Estimates Committee and the Public Undertaking Committee. Rajya Sabha Members and Ministers are debarred from becoming members of the Public Accounts Committee. Its main functions are to scrutinise the Appropriation Accounts of the Central Government and the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon. This Committee ensures that public money is spent in accordance with Parliament's decisions and calls attention to cases of waste, extravagance, loss, nugatory expenditure or lack of financial integrity in the public services.

Q. 11. In which year did the following events take place?

- (a) Dropping of Atom Bomb on Hiroshima.
- (b) Battle of Plassey.
- (c) Breaking of World War I.
- (d) Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi.
- (e) Establishment of the East India Company in India.

Ans. (a) 1945; (b) 1757; (c) 1914; (d) 1948; (e) 1600.

Q. 12. What part did the following play in the history of India and in which century?

- (i) Alexander; (ii) Muhammad Ghori; (iii) Rajendra Chola; (iv) Vasco da Gama; (v) Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

Ans. (i) **Alexander:** (356-323 B.C.) was king of Macedon (Greece) who set out for mighty military exploits and invaded India in 327 B.C. He reached up to the Beas from where he retreated as his home-sick army refused to proceed further.

(ii) **Muhammad Ghori:** His conquests commenced the Muslim Rule in India in the 12th century A.D. He occupied

Lahore in 1186 A.D. In 1191, he was defeated by Prithvi Raj Chohan but after a year avenged his defeat and conquered Delhi and Ajmer.

(iii) **Rajendra Chola:** (1018-1042 A.D.) He was son of Raja Raja Chola the Great, of the Chola dynasty, in the south of India (11th Century A.D.). He vigorously carried on the warlike policy of his father. He penetrated as far as the territory of Modern Burma and Bengal. He overran Orissa and also conquered Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(iv) **Vasco da Gama:** was a Portuguese sailor who, in 1498 (fifteenth century), rounded the Cape of Good Hope and succeeded in reaching the port of Calicut. He was the first person to discover the sea route to India.

(v) **Raja Ram Mohan Roy:** (1774-1833 A.D.) Raja Ram Mohan Roy was one of the greatest social reformers that India has produced. He was instrumental in eradicating social evils like *sati*, *purdah* and *child marriage*. He advocated widow re-marriage and stood for the cause of women's education. He founded the *Brahmo Samaj*.

Q. 13. Where in India are the following located?

- (i) National Botanical Garden; (ii) Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute; (iii) Currency Printing Press; (iv) Indian Statistical Institute; (v) Indian Rare Earths Factory.

Ans. (i) Lucknow (U.P.); (ii) Jadavpur (West Bengal); (iii) Nasik Road (Maharashtra); (iv) Calcutta (West Bengal); (v) Alwaye (Kerala).

Q. 14. Give the name of the capital of each of the following countries:

- (i) Yugoslavia; (ii) Poland; (iii) Uganda.

Ans. (i) Belgrade; (ii) Warsaw; (iii) Kampala.

Q. 15. Name the countries having the following currencies:

- (i) Baht (ii) Kyat (iii) Yen.

Ans. (i) Thailand; (ii) Burma; (iii) Japan.

Q. 16. What and where are the following?

- (i) Lena; (ii) Riyadh; (iii) Kuril; (iv) Kampala; (v) Great Slave.

Ans. (i) **Lena:** is a river in Siberia rising in mountains west of Lake Baikal and flowing north to the Arctic Ocean. The length of the river is 4,480 km.

(ii) **Riyadh:** is the capital of Saudi Arabia.

(iii) **Kuril:** is a chain of small islands in the north Pacific (USSR).

(iv) **Kampala:** is the capital of Uganda in East Africa.

(v) **Great Slave:** is a lake in the north-west territory of Canada.

Q. 17. What do the following geographical terms mean?

- (a) Savannas; (b) Trade Winds; (c) Snow line; (d) Tundras; (e) Prairies.

Ans. (a) **Savannas:** are tropical grasslands. It is the region bordering the equatorial forests in each hemisphere. The *Llanos* and *Pampas* of South America are chief examples of Savannas; but extensive Savannas are in Africa.

(b) **Trade Winds:** The rays of the sun fall almost vertically at the Equator and the air there becomes hot and the pressure is low. The air rises towards the Poles and descends 30°N and 30°S. Because winds blow from high-pressure to low-pressure areas, winds from over these altitudes blow towards the Equator and the Trade Winds are caused.

(c) **Snow-line:** is the line on a mountain slope which represents the lower limit of per-

petual snow; below this line any snow which falls is melted during summer season.

(d) **Tundras:** Tundras are vast stretches of desert land in Arctic and Antarctic regions. The region is too cold for the growth of trees. The surface remains frozen for three quarters of the year. Vegetation is moss and lichen. The *reindeer* is the only animal which is the source of milk, meat and dress for the poor inhabitants of these *barren lands*.

(e) **Prairies:** are extensive treeless tracts situated in Central and North America. These are covered with tall coarse grass. The climate of this region is marked by low, irregular rainfall, high summer temperatures and strong winds. The European settlers have now changed these grasslands into rich wheat lands and at present these are the granary of the world. They have also set up industries based on animal products e.g., canning of meat, leather manufacture etc.

Q. 18. Give meanings of the following:

(a) Arthritis; (b) Epilepsy; (c) Quarantine; (d) Pyorrhoea; (e) Eskimos; (f) Cybernetics; (g) Habeas Corpus; (h) Burlesque; (i) Iceberg; (j) Veto.

Ans. (a) Arthritis: It is a disease of the inflammation of a joint or joints. The infection may enter through an injury or be carried to the joint through the blood.

(b) **Epilepsy:** Epilepsy is a symptom, not a disease of some defects or injury in the nervous system.

(c) **Quarantine:** a place of compulsory isolation or detention for some days (originally for a ship 40 days) to prevent spread of contagion or infection. The term was much in use when Apollo-11 astronauts were quarantined in Houston Space Cen-

tre after their return from the trip to the moon.

(d) **Pyorrhoea:** is infection of the gums causing the edges of the tooth sockets to bleed easily when the teeth are being brushed or even otherwise.

(e) **Eskimos:** are people inhabiting the extreme northern regions in the U.S.A., Canada and Greenland. They are generally of medium height, have flat faces with high cheek-bones, long heads, and black hair.

(f) **Cybernetics:** It is a Greek word meaning "Governor". It has been adopted as an American term for the science of automatic control by machines. For example, calculating machine is one of the common cybernetics invented by Pascal.

(g) **Habeas Corpus:** The Habeas Corpus Act was first passed in 1679 during the reign of Charles II of Britain. It facilitates a prisoner to appear in person in a court for obtaining either a speedy trial or release on bail. The Act provides that no person can be imprisoned without a writ or warrant stating the charges.

(h) **Burlesque:** It means ludicrous imitation; a piece of literature or acting, or other performance that mocks its original by grotesque exaggeration or by combining the dignified with the low or the familiar.

(i) **Iceberg:** a mass of land ice broken off or "calved" from the end of a glacier or from an ice barrier, floating on the sea is known as iceberg.

(j) **Veto:** means any authoritative prohibition; the power of rejecting or forbidding. In U.N.O., for example, to pass an important resolution, all the five permanent members, plus four others must vote "yes". If one of the permanent members casts a negative vote, it is called a "Veto".

Q. 19. (i) How many squares are there in a chess board?

(ii) What is rubber (in cricket)?

(iii) What is deuce (in tennis)?

(iv) What is the Cooch-Bihar Trophy for?

(v) What is the trophy for Asian Football?

Ans. (i) 64.

(ii) To win two games out of the three or three out of five is to win the *Rubber*.

(iii) When both sides make equal scores at a game point it is *deuce*.

(iv) All India School Cricket Championship.

(v) Merdeka.

Q. 20. What games do you associate the following with:

(i) Chukker; (ii) Tee; (iii) Davis Cup; (iv) Short corner; (v) Santosh Trophy.

Ans. (i) Polo; (ii) Golf; (iii) Tennis; (iv) Hockey; (v) Football.

Q. 21. How is the U.N. Secretary-General appointed and what are his functions?

Ans. In terms of Article 97 of the United Nations Charter, the Secretary-General of the Organisation has to be appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council. The acceptable candidate has to be a person whose choice none of the five Permanent Members would veto.

The Secretary General of the U.N.O. is the Chief Administrative Officer. He is responsible for the direction of the work of the Secretariat.

Q. 22. Give the headquarters of the following:

(i) F.A.O., (ii) U.N.E.S.C.O., (iii) W.H.O., (iv) F.S.C.A.P., (v) I.M.F.

Ans. (i) Rome; (ii) Paris; (iii) Geneva; (iv) Bangkok; (v) Washington.

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1. Democracy in India Today

Democracy, say the Oxford Dictionary, is that form of government in which the sovereign power resides in the people and is exercised either directly by them or by officers elected by them. More and more people are turning to it because it combines progress, social as well as economic, with respect for moral values and human dignity.

India is the biggest democracy in the world comprising as it does 64 crores of people of different creeds, castes and colours. Since 1952 there have been six General Elections and they have been quite peaceful. It will not be an exaggeration to say that the Indian people have taken to parliamentary democracy as a fish takes to water. The Indian mind revolts at the idea of autocracy or dictatorship. Centuries of religious tolerance have engendered a climate which is congenial to democracy.

Recent political history bears out the truth of this statement. A party having remained in office for 28 years dreamt of perpetuating its rule. The idea of dynastic succession was

promoted with religious fanaticism. And a self-styled monarch was ready to oblige. For this the Legislature was strangled, the press was gagged, the judiciary was controlled and the Executive was subjugated. The experiment was too unbearable for our democratic people, and they drove out the "freak" lock, stock and barrel. All this was achieved without firing a shot. The Juggernaut of Indian Democracy pulverized it without sound or fury.

Therein lies the strength of our democracy. Its weakness lies in its lack of economic content. It is a shame that even after thirty years of this democracy about 60% of our people are living below the poverty line. There must be something wrong with a democracy where the majority, by implication wielding power live in abject poverty. They must be doing so willingly and cheerfully.

It is this weakness which is a danger-signal. The hungry man, when asked to choose between ballot and bread is bound to prefer the latter. In its totality a lot of progress has

been registered, industrial as well as agricultural. But the fruits of this progress have been monopolized by a handful. Rather the poor have grown poorer. No wonder this lopsided distribution of wealth has engendered cynicism which poses a threat to our democracy.

Already there are signs of unrest. It will be a bold man who views the contemporary law and order situation with equanimity. A little grouse and hell is let loose. Strikes, gheraos, go-slow, tools down, windows are smashed, buses are burnt, the nation is held to ransom. Freedom has been rehabilitated. That is a big achievement. But this freedom should not be abused. Let us reason together. The health of a democratic society will be measured by the quality of functions performed by private citizens. Mahatma Gandhi advised us "Democracy, disciplined and enlightened is the finest thing in the world." A democracy in which there is frequent recourse to vandalism will lend itself to chaos and may be self-destroyed. We must pause and ponder.

2. International Year of the Child

Christ was preaching before his followers. A few children were standing at a distance, impatient to meet the Lord. But the elders frowned and would not let them. Christ shouted at the elders "Suffer little children and forbid them not, to come unto me; for of such is the Kingdom of heaven."

It is this Kingdom of heaven

which children see every moment while the adults try all their lives to find but cannot. This Kingdom is that of human equality, irrespective of caste, creed and colour. The child lives in the domain of the heart, knows only the language of the heart. For him there is no east or west, Asia or Europe, Hindu or Christian. He is the

citizen of a perfect world, the dreamland of visionaries and idealists, the utopia of egalitarians, the Arcadia of Universal Brotherhood. Let but a few years pass and the small child begins to differentiate between one person and another; he learns distinctions and discriminations. One who, inhabited the Kingdom of love emigrates

to the land of hatred. Shades of the prison-house begin to close upon the growing boy. Influences have started working on him, influences by no means healthy and edifying. Grown-ups stride across the stage and the child undergoes gradual transformation. These grown-ups have a strange way of putting themselves in compartments and groups. They build up barriers and then they think that those outside their particular barrier are strangers whom they must dislike. There are barriers of religion, of caste, of colour, of party, of language, of province, of nation, of custom and of wealth and poverty. Thus they live in prisons of their own making.

The child, therefore, should have been our model, embodying the perfect realization of the U.N.O. ideal, the obliteration of all distinctions, all divisive tendencies. But what have we done to the child? He has been starved, oppressed, exploited and enslaved. We have crucified one Christ and the result is universal imbalance, unrest, chaos, wars and strikes and on top of all, the recurrent threat of a nuclear war. The disequilibrium cannot go on. We are on the brink of a volcano.

U.N.O. has at last thought of the Saviour, the Lamb of God. He must be given his due place. We have been gloating on our oil-wealth, our industrial wealth, our armament-wealth and even our nuclear wealth but all this has given us no peace, no content. We have neglected our child-wealth. There are 100 crores of children in the world, 25 crores in India alone. Baring a small percentage of them, the rest live like worms and die like flies. Millions of them do not get a square meal a day and present a dismal sight trudging about with bulging bellies and sunken eyes. It is scandalous that nearly 16 million children die before they

reach the age of six. The help that UNICEF has rendered so far has only touched the fringe. It is equally painful to see children moving about in rags when there is enough cloth in the world to go round. There must be something wrong about an economic order where some children change their linen half-a-dozen times while millions cannot cover their bodies.

The same inequity (or shall we say inequality) meets the eye in housing opportunities. Dozens of children are huddled in a small dungeon where the sun and the moon are utter strangers. No wonder these children are rickety and death-pale.

In the context of this stark poverty, mal-nutrition, ignorance and general indifference to the development of children, a concerted effort on an international scale was very much needed. To meet this crying need U.N.O. has focussed world attention by calling 1979 the International Year of the Child. Throughout the next 12 months the efforts of national and International agencies throughout the world will be directed towards the plight and possibilities of children.

We, in India, have been particularly derelict in our duty towards children. We have talked big but done little. To take an illustration we laid down in our Constitution in 1949: The State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution for free and compulsory education for all children, until they complete the age of fourteen years (Article 45). The target should have been achieved latest by 1962 but the figures tell a dismal tale.

Our resources have been limited, of course, but then our sense of priorities has been lopsided, with the result that even the minimum facilities as

required by our Constitution have been denied to them. For us, therefore, 1979 should be a year of Penitence, an atonement for our negligence and dereliction towards our children. It was therefore, in the fitness of things that India was the first country to pledge financial assistance for I.Y.C. It has entered the year with fanfare. The countrywide rallies on the New Year's day are an encouraging sign. However, speeches, seminars and the plethora of colourful posters will not be enough. These will merely serve as a reminder of the problem and are unlikely to benefit children much. Concrete programmes designed to make an enduring impact are the need of the hour.

G. K. TEST

(Contd. from page 540)

Q. 23. What do the following abbreviations stand for?

(i) ESCAP (ii) INSDOC (iii) UNEF (iv) PIN (v) IDBI.

Ans. (i) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; (ii) Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre; (iii) United Nations Emergency Force; (iv) Postal Index Number; (v) Industrial Development Bank of India.

Q. 24. Who wrote the following books?

(i) Huckleberry Finn; (ii) Pride and Prejudice; (iii) Gulag Archipelago; (iv) Gora; (v) Two leaves and a bud.

Ans. (i) Mark Twain; (ii) Jane Austen; (iii) Alexander Solzhenitsyn; (iv) Rabindra Nath Tagore; (v) Mulk Raj Anand.

Q. 25. Name the authors of the following books:

(i) Gitanjali; (ii) Yashodora; (iii) Shakuntala; (iv) Ramayan; (v) Gita Govinda.

Ans. (i) Rabindra Nath Tagore; (ii) Maithalisharan Gupta; (iii) Kalidas; (iv) Valmiki; (v) Jaya Dev.



Conception of an Egalitarian Social Order

Put briefly, the economic equality of Gandhiji's conception was that everybody should have enough for his or her needs. It did not mean that everyone would liberally have the same amount. Gandhiji said, "Let nobody try to justify the glaring difference between the classes and the masses, the princes and the pauper, by saying that the former, need more. That will be idle sophistry and a travesty of my argument." In Gandhiji's view of equality, everyone is to have a balanced diet, a decent house to live in, facilities for the education of his children and adequate medical relief.

With his firm faith in non-violence, Gandhiji naturally gave first preference to a non-violent way of achieving the sort of equal distribution of wealth he had in mind. He, therefore, called upon the more prosperous sections of society to voluntarily abdicate their riches to share them for the common good, themselves acting as trustees of their superfluous wealth. He wanted the rich to bear in mind the poverty of India and to exercise self-restraint in every sphere of life. He wanted them to reduce their wants to the minimum, and to use the rest of

their wealth for the good of society. It is no doubt a difficult ideal and he well realised that it may not be possible of achievement. Therefore, visualising a situation in which the rich would not divest themselves of their superfluous wealth voluntarily, he sounded a warning that unless there was a voluntary abdication of riches, a violent and bloody revolution was a certainty. But at the same time, he condemned the use of violence to dispossess the rich. Instead, he suggested that the poor should resort to non-violent, non-co-operation and civil disobedience in order to make the rich realise the error of clinging to wealth beyond what they really need of it for leading a simple life.

Gandhiji on Economic Equality

Gandhiji's idea of society is that while all men are born equal, all do not have the same capacity. Everyone must, however, have enough for his basic needs. An intelligent person can of course earn more than his less intelligent brother but the basic needs of both remain the same. The former should be allowed to earn more, but whatever is in excess of his basic needs should be used for the common good. Similarly, Gandhiji did not object to the rich keeping their wealth but he wanted them to hold whatever was superfluous to their basic human needs in trust for the less privileged sections of society. Thus Gandhiji wanted to bring about economic equality through non-violence, by harnessing the forces of love against hatred. His method differed from that of the Socialists and the Communists. The latter believe in provoking class conflict through hatred and thus gaining control of the state to enforce equality. But in Gandhiji's scheme of things, people had

to be inspired to adopt the ideal of economic equality voluntarily and the State was to carry out the will of the people. Gandhiji deplored the glaring contrasts between the rich and the poor. For bridging the gulf he prescribed a voluntary abdication of riches by the affluent sections of society, the alternative to which remains a violent and bloody revolution.

Panchayati Raj

Gandhiji held that from time immemorial India had been a country essentially republican in spirit and that is why Indian society was able to survive so many shocks. He identified the villages of India as the repositories of that republican spirit, and pleaded for the revival of self-contained village communities being administered by Panchayats.

In the India of his dreams, Gandhiji visualised the village as a complete republic, independent of its neighbours for its vital needs, and yet interdependent for many others in which dependence is necessary. He wanted the Government of the village to be conducted by a Panchayat of five persons, annually elected by the adult villagers, male and female, possessing minimum prescribed qualifications, and having all the authority and jurisdiction they might require. He said, "Since there will be no system of punishments in the accepted sense, this Panchayat will be the legislature, judiciary and executive combined to operate for its year of office."

Gandhiji believed that when Panchayati Raj is established, public opinion would accomplish something that is impossible of achievement through violence, i.e., the supremacy of public opinion over the power of riches or the gun.

Objective-Type Tests—English Language

(Contd. from page 534)

Q. C. Which is the most appropriate title of the passage?

1. Greater accumulation of wealth.
2. Ways to meet unrest in the country.
3. How to build progressive capitalism.
4. Profit-sharing.

Q. D. What do you mean by the terms:

Seasonable employment;
incentive;
cure-all.

Answers

(Question I)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) 2 | (b) 3 |
| (c) 2 | (d) 2 |
| (e) 2 | (f) 3 |
| (g) 3 | (h) 3 |
| (i) 3 | (j) 2 |

(Question II)

1. discredited
2. vacillating
3. traverse
4. scrambled
5. credulous
6. innumerable
7. ponderous
8. spendthrift
9. approbation
10. consternation

(Question III)

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) 2 | (b) 1 |
| (c) 2 | (d) 3 |
| (e) 2 and 3 | (f) 2 |
| (g) 2 | (h) 3 |
| (i) 2 | (j) 1 and 3 |

(Question IV)

1. implacable
2. indelible
3. changeable

4. irrevocable
5. memorable
6. objectionable
7. indestructible
8. imperceptible
9. uncontrollable
10. untranslatable

(Question V)

- A. 3
B. 1, 3, 4
C. 3

D. *Seasonable employment* means employing workers on a temporary basis and retrenching them when there is no work.

incentive is a payment to the workers for greater output, thereby encouraging him to pull his weight.

cure-all a remedy that cures all diseases, otherwise known as panacea.

Objective-Type Tests—Everyday Science

(Contd. from page 536)

27. (a) 28. (b)
29. (a) 30. (a)

31. The astronaut has the same speed whether inside or outside the space capsule. Outside, his inertia keeps him moving with the capsule because there is no air friction to slow him down.

32. A person will take larger breaths in such an atmosphere to increase his intake of oxygen. His body will also increase the number of red blood cells to counteract the lack of oxygen.

33. When comets come close to the sun, some of the material vaporises, and the pressure of energy from the sun pushes the vapour in such a way that the tail always points away from the sun.

34. When the ballast tanks of a submarine are filled with air, the submarine weighs less

than an equal volume of water and the vessel rises. To submerge, the ballast tanks are filled with water and the air that occupied them is compressed into high pressure tanks until it is needed again.

35. Cosmic rays penetrating living cells may ionise the DNA or RNA protein molecules so that these important chemicals are unable to perform their vital roles in the cell. The genetic make up of the cell may also be altered so that mutations are produced.

36. 1. (d)
2. (f)
3. (b)
4. (c)
5. (e)
6. (g)
7. (a)
8. (h)

37. (a) D
(b) colony
(c) coccus

- (d) white
(e) pure culture

38. 1. less
2. $3\frac{1}{2}$
3. troposphere
4. ten
5. five
6. weather
7. stratosphere
8. 50
9. ionosphere
10. exosphere
11. 18,000

39. (a) Indole Acetic Acid
(b) Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide Phosphate.

(c) 1 Angstrom (10^{-10} metre).

(d) A hygrometer that uses a wet-and-dry bulb thermometer.

(e) The highest least dense region of the atmosphere.

(f) The part of the earth's crust, waters and atmosphere where living organisms can subsist.



SPORTS

BADMINTON

National Championships: Indian ace Prakash Padukone (Karnataka) claimed the men's singles title for the eighth successive year when he defeated Syed Modi (U.P.) in two straight games in the 43rd National Badminton Championships at Udaipur on February 2.

Kanwal Thakur Singh, Chandigarh-based Punjab girl, retained the women's singles after an exciting win over Ami Ghia (Railways).

RESULTS

Men's singles: Prakash Padukone (Karnataka) beat Syed Modi (U.P.), 15-6, 15-1.

Women's singles: Kanwal Thakur Singh (Punjab) beat Ami Ghia (Railways), 11-7, 12-11.

Men's doubles: Pradcep Ghandhe and Sanjay Sharma (Maharashtra), beat Leroy D'Sa and Udai Pawar (Badminton Association of India), 15-10, 15-13.

Women's doubles: Kanwal Thakur Singh and Ami Ghia (B.A.I.) beat Latha Kailash (Kerala) and Uma Moorthy (Karnataka), 15-6, 15-7.

Mixed doubles: Satish Bhatia (Punjab) and Latha Kailash (Kerala) beat Leroy D'Sa and Maurcen D'Souza (Railways), 15-10, 15-6.

World Champions Cup Tournament: In an all-Indonesian final, Lien Swie King defeated Ite Sumirat by 15-8, 15-8 in the World Champions Cup Badminton Tournament at Tokyo on January 21. Danish Lene Koppen claimed the women's singles when she outplayed Hiroe Yuki of Japan, 11-7, 11-6.

BOXING

Junior National Championships: Services won all the seven events in the 11th Junior National Boxing Championships which concluded at Jabalpur on February 11. Services, with 21 points, were followed by Andhra Pradesh who got only six points. Suresh Mehta of Punjab was adjudged the best loser.

CRICKET

Vizzy Trophy: North Zone regained the Vizzy Cricket Trophy after a lapse of one year by virtue of their first innings lead over South Zone in the final at Calcutta on February 9.

SCORES

North Zone: 483 for five dec.

South Zone: 204 and 392 for seven (plus 28 penalty runs).

India Win Rubber: India won the six-Test rubber against West Indies by 1-0 when the last match petered out into a tame draw at Kanpur on February 8. India's only victory in the series had been in the fourth Test at Madras.

India had previously won the rubber against West Indies in their country in 1971 but had lost the 1974-75 home series 2-3 and the 1976 Tests in West Indies by a 1-2 margin.

Captains: Sunil Gavaskar (India), A. Kallicharan (West Indies)

Fifth Test: Rain robbed India of almost a certain victory over West Indies in the fifth cricket Test which concluded at New Delhi on January 29.

After amassing a record aggregate of 566 for eight declared, India dismissed the tourists for a paltry 172 and forced them to follow on. Rain came to the rescue of West Indies and at stumps on the last day they were 179 for three wickets in their second innings. A total of seven hours and 25 minutes of play was lost in the last two days of the match.

The match, however, was remarkable for some record-breaking performances by Indian players.

The 29-year-old "little master" from Bombay, Sunil Gavaskar, India's skipper, hammered his 19th Test century and equalled the international record of Sir Len Hutton as the hitter of the maximum number of Test centuries by an opening batsman. He also surpassed Sir Garfield Sobers' record of most runs by any batsman in Indo-West Indies cricket. Sobers had made 1920 runs in 18 Tests (30 innings). Gavaskar crossed that landmark in his 15th Test and 28 innings. He further surged ahead of Sobers' record of eight centuries by scoring his 10th century against West Indies. These included two double hundreds.

Dilip Vengsarkar earned the distinction of scoring his second century of the series.

It was, however, young Kapil Dev, a 20-year-old Chandigarh student, who won the hearts of lakhs of cricket fans. His bold, fluent and graceful strokes all round the wicket helped him hoist his maiden Test century. He remained unbeaten with 126 runs when Gavaskar declared the innings closed, and was rightly selected as "the man of the match".

SCORES

India: 566 for eight dec. (S. Gavaskar 120, D.B. Vengsarkar 109, Kapil Dev 126 not out).

West Indies: 172 (Kapil Dev, three for 59, K. Ghavri three for 53) and 179 for three (S.F. Bachhus 61).

Pakistan-New Zealand Test: Pakistan defeated New Zealand by 129 runs in the first Test match at Christchurch on February 7.

SCORES

Pakistan: 271 and 323 for six dec.

New Zealand: 290 and 175.

England-Australia Test: England defeated Australia by 205 runs in the fifth Test at Adelaide on February 1. England had already won the six-Test series with a 3-1 lead after the Fourth Test.

SCORES

England: 169 and 360

Australia: 164 and 160

In the sixth and final Test, England defeated Australia by nine wickets at Sydney on February 14. England thus won the series by 5-1.

SCORES

Australia: 198 and 143.

England: 308 and 35 for one.

Inter-University Championship (Rohinton Baria Trophy): Delhi, the holders, retained the Rohinton Baria Trophy whipping Bombay by six wickets in the All-India Inter-University Cricket Championship at Patna on January 27.

SCORES

Bombay: 153 and 202.

Delhi: 292 and 64 for four.

Women's National Championship: Bengal retained the Women's National Cricket Championship at Ambala Cantonment on January 25 when they defeated Tamil Nadu by 33 runs in the 60-over each final.

Whereas this was Bengal's fourth consecutive victory in the final since the inception of the championship five years ago, Tamil Nadu had made the last

grade for the first time. Eleven teams, two each from the five zones, and hosts Haryana competed in the championship.

FOOTBALL

Durand Cup: In an all-Calcutta final, East Bengal Club carried away the prestigious Durand Football Cup when they defeated their traditional rivals, Mohun Bagan, by three goals to nil in the final at New Delhi on January 17.

The oldest competition of its kind in the country, the Durand Football Tournament was started at Simla in 1888. Due to World Wars I and II, the tournament was not held from 1914 to 1919 and 1941 to 1949 respectively. Revived at New Delhi in 1950, the tournament again could not be held in 1962 due to Chinese aggression.

GOLF

A.I. Women's Championship: Mrs Vinita of Bombay won the All-India Women's Golf Championship when she defeated Mrs Elanna Chow of Hong Kong by one-up in the final at Calcutta on January 25.

GYMNASTICS

National Championships: West Bengal won the team title for men under-20 in the National Gymnastics Championships which concluded at Surat on February 12. Securing 127 10 points, they relegated the holders, Punjab (115.45 points) to the second position.

Haryana girls under-20 stole the show in their section. Besides winning the team title, they claimed top positions in all the events and Sandhya was adjudged the best gymnast in her age group.

Chandigarh claimed the men's team title with 170.10 points. B.S. Nandi of Punjab and Kalpana Devnath of Tri-

pura were declared best gymnasts among men and women respectively.

HOCKEY

International Tournament: Australia's first International Hockey Tournament, since the 1956 Melbourne World Olympic Games, will be held at Perth from April 20 to 29.

India, Australia, Holland, France and Canada will play in Pool 'A'. Pakistan, New Zealand, Malaysia, Kenya and Britain have been included in Pool 'B'.

The 10-day tournament will be played on league-cum-knock-out basis.

Ashok to Lead India: Ashok Kumar was selected to lead India in the International Hockey Tournament, to be played at Perth (Australia) from April 20 to 30, according to an official announcement made at Madras on February 7.

Gujar Mal Memorial Gold Cup: The final of the A.I. Gujar Mal Modi Memorial Gold Cup Hockey Tournament resulted in a barren draw at Meerut on February. The trophy was shared by Punjab Police and Services Sports Control Board President's XI (Reds).

TABLE TENNIS

Inter-University Championships: Delhi retained the men's team title in the Inter-University Table Tennis Championships when they defeated Bombay by 5-2 in the final at New Delhi on January 24. Bombay, however, claimed the women's title with a 3-2 win over Gauhati.

TENNIS

Davis Cup: Australia qualified for the final of the Eastern Zone of the Davis Cup Tennis Tournament defeating India in a thrill-packed tie by three
(Contd. on page 549)

Current General Knowledge

Abbreviations

Awards

Conferences

Persons

Places, Projects

Miscellany

ABBREVIATIONS

ARAMCO: Arabian-American Oil Company.

I.Y.C.: International Year of the Child.

AWARDS

Jnanpith Award for 1978: H.S. Vatsyayan, the eminent Hindi poet and novelist known as "Ageya", has been awarded the 14th Jnanpith Award for 1978 for his collection of poems "Kitni navon main kitni bar" (*in how many boats how many times*).

For 1977: Shivarama Karanth, the eminent Kannada novelist had won the 13th Jnanpith Award for his novel *Mukajjiya Kanasugalu* (*dreams of a dumb woman*).

For 1976: Mrs Ashapura Devi, the Bengali novelist, had won the 12th Jnanpith Award for her novel *Prathama Pratishruti*.

Other Previous recipients: G. Sankara Kurup; Tarashankar Bandyopadhyaya; K.V. Puttappa and Umashankar Joshi (*jointly*); Sumitranandan Pant; Firaq Gorakhpuri; Vishwanath Satyanarayana; Bishnu De; Ramdhari Singh Dinkar; D.R. Bendre and Gopinath Mohanty (*jointly*); V.S. Khandekar; P.V. Akilandam.

The Rs. 1 lakh award has been sponsored by the Akhil Bharatiya Jnanpith set up to conduct researches so as to bring out the extinct and rare unpublished work of knowledge and to give impetus to the creation of original con-

temporary literature in various Indian languages.

Templeton Award: Nikkyo Niwano, a Japanese Buddhist, has been awarded on January 30, 1979, the 80,000-sterling annual prize for progress in religion.

The previous recipients of the Templeton Award are: Mother Teresa (of Calcutta), Dr S. Radhakrishnan (of India), Cardinal Suemehs (of Belgium) and Chiara Lubich (of Italy).

Hollywood Awards: Jane Fonda and John Voight won the Hollywood Golden Globe Award for the best dramatic actress and actor of 1978, and their roles in "Coming the bolts which tells of a paroxysm and Service man's return by which the name is short of 78

Vishwa Hindi Prabodh award was presented to Prime Minister For example, if January 24, 1978 weight registered scholars—Prof. 11 oz., it would (of Czechoslovakia) that five bolts Doi (of Japan) twenty-eight were each Prasad Misra, ounce short weight Somdutt B, therefore, box No. 5 ritius), and the one we are looking (of U.K.) or.

"Dip" (The lines of drawings in column 2 are taken away from those in column 1 to make those in column 3.)
(a) T, (b) F, (c) F.
(c) All others are synonyms.
True.
DENT.
SUS. (All others have two vowels and one consonant.)

Gavaskar—Mushtaq; ✓
Viswanath—Sarfaraz. ✓

1978 by the Editorial Board of the Diplomatic World Bulletin, a periodical on U.N. events.

CONFERENCES

Second World Hindu Conference: The three-day second World Hindu Conference (Vishva Hindu Sammelan) was held at Allahabad on January 25-27, 1979. It was inaugurated by the Dalai Lama.

The theme and peroration of the conference was: "Krunvanto Viswam Aryam" (let us make this world a noble place). The conference was held at Allahabad on January 25-27, 1979. It was inaugurated by the Dalai Lama.

One number in the pair of opposites is twice the other.) →

D=5. (Adjacent numbers are equal.)

22. MODE.

23. (a).

24. *op. cit.* means 'in the work quoted', and it is a short form of the Latin *opus citatum*.

SPORTS

(Contd. from page 546)

matches to two at Madras on February 12.

RESULTS

Singles: Ross Case (Australia) beat Shashi Menon, 9-7, 6-1, 6-2; John Alexander (Australia) beat Vijay Amrithraj, 6-4, 8-6, 1-6, 6-3; Vijay Amrithraj beat Ross Case, 7-5, 6-1, 7-5; John Alexander beat Shashi Menon, 6-8, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.

Doubles: Vijay Amrithraj and Anand Amrithraj beat Ross Case and Geoff Masters (Australia), 6-8, 6-4, 6-1, 6-3.

Conference opened in Allahabad on January 24, 1979. The Conference demanded that Sanskrit teaching should be made compulsory, either as an independent language or as part of any other language, from primary to higher secondary examinations.

It has also demanded in a resolution that professors of Sanskrit should be appointed in all colleges for teaching the language and all efforts made by universities to facilitate research in various subjects in Sanskrit.

PERSONS

Fuji, Venerable Nichidarsu: 93-year-old Ven. Fuji of Japan, who has been awarded the 14th Jawaharlal Nehru Award (1978) for international understanding, is the president of the Japan-Bharata Sarvodaya *Mitratā Sangha*, an organisation devoted to the propagation of Gandhian philosophy. *Series by 5-1.*

SCORES

Australia: 198 and 143.

England: 308 and 35 for one.

Inter-University Championship (Rohinton Baria Trophy): Delhi, the holders, retained the *Rohinton Baria Trophy* whipping Bombay by six wickets in the All-India Inter-University Cricket Championship at Patna on January 27.

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Whereas this was Bengal's fourth consecutive victory in the final since the inception of the championship five years ago, Tamil Nadu had made the last

received a historic welcome home on February 1 after more than 14 years in exile described the Shah as a "traitor" who had ruined Iran's economy, industry and agriculture. His objective is to create an Islamic Republic in Iran.

Pahlavi, Mohammad Reza: the Shah of Iran, was the symbol of Pahlavi dynasty. His reign after 37 years on peacock throne provoked a revolution and bloodshed and he was compelled to leave Iran on January 16, 1979.

Rockefeller, Nelson: who died on January 27, 1979, was the liberal-minded Republican multi-millionaire. He was U.S. Vice-President under President Ford for almost two years.

Vatsyayan, H.S.: born on March 7, 1911, he is the eminent Hindi poet and novelist, known as "Ageya". He was in the news having been awarded the 14th Jnanpith Award for 1978 for his collection of poems *Ajanki navon main kitni bar* "pionship *many boats how many* Elanna Cile is editor of the one-up in it Times", a largely on January Hindi daily.

is among the GYM *lian writers who* he modern Hindi **National** pioneer of the West Bengal work new trend in for men under-20, own as "Pragymnastics Centalism, he which concluded the generation February 12. Secu have made points, they relegate, through ders, Punjab (115-45:es edited to the second position. 'Saptak'".

Haryana girls under- output the show in their section, ificant. sides winning the team, ks are they claimed top positions, 11 all the events and Sandhya, three adjudged the best gymnasts and her age group.

Chandigarh claimed men's team title with 17 points. B.S. Nandi of Pt. and Kalpana Devnath of terai of the

Buddha. The Nepalese government has approved a Rs. 35-crore master plan to develop the place with the U.N. assistance as an international tourist resort.

The decision of the 12th World Fellowship of Buddhists held in Tokyo recently to celebrate 1979 as the "Lumbini Year" has given the much-needed fillip to Nepal's ambitious and voluntary international programme.

The highlights of the Lumbini master plan include restoration of sacred gardens in which Lord Buddha was born and setting up a monastic enclave to facilitate meditation by devout Buddhists.

The proposal to make Lumbini as international pilgrimage centre was first made by the late U Thant, former Secretary-General of the U.N.O. in 1964.

Teheran: is the capital of Iran. It has been in the news due to a mini-civil war—a revolution which toppled the Shah government.

PROJECTS

Kotmale Reservoir Project: The massive Kotmale Reservoir Project in Sri Lanka—the symbol of Indo-Sri Lanka co-operation—was launched on February 4 by Mr Morarji Desai while on a visit to that country. An Indian firm was selected to be associated in preparing the feasibility report for the project by an international agency in competition with similar firms in developed countries.

India and Sweden are providing assistance for the construction of the Kotmale reservoir—the biggest of five such reservoirs in the Mahaweli scheme designed to provide irrigation to cultivate thousands of hectares of land, generate more electric power and provide employment.

Srisaillam Multipurpose Project: It is a massive power project, 110 km away from Nagarjunasagar in the upper reaches of the Krishna. It is part of integration development of water resources in the State. The Krishna, flowing through a narrow and steep gorge, has provided an ideal site for the project.

The Rs. 208-crore Srisaillam Project is expected to commission its first power unit of 110 kw by June 1980.

The project, began 17 years ago, took so long because of lack of funds. The original estimated cost of Rs. 42 crore has gone up to Rs. 208 crore.

The project will irrigate about 1.4 lakh hectares of land. It will also give 15 TMC of drinking water to Madras city. It employs over 20,000 workers.

MISCELLANY

Capital of Europe: Strasbourg, with its feet firmly embedded in both French and German history, is staking its claim to become the capital of Europe. It is involved in a running battle with Luxembourg for the seat of the European Common Market's new Parliament, to be directly elected for the first time in June.

Meghalaya was under sea: The southern part of Meghalaya was "under the sea" 100 million years ago. This was revealed by a study undertaken by the palaeontology wing of the special investigation division of Geological Survey of India, north-eastern region.

The study of ancient rocks had also indicated existence of large reptiles (dinosaurs) in the area.

Israel's population: Israel's population at the end of 1977 was 3.5 million, including 570,000 Arabs, the Bureau of Statistics has reported. The figures do not include Arabs living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hinduism in Canada: Hinduism and Sikhism are to be among the officially recognised religions of the Ontario province in Canada.

World's cheapest capital: According to a U.N. survey, Colombo has been rated as the world's cheapest capital having cost of living 53.

World's most expensive capital: The most expensive capitals, according to a U.N. survey, are Tokyo and Kinshasa. Tokyo tops in cost of living at 162 followed by Kinshasa 161, the Hague 153, Geneva 151, Bonn 138, Brussels 138, Copenhagen 135, Paris 127, Warsaw 73, Lima 69, Valletta 69.

Delhi is cheaper than several other capitals. While the cost of living index in New York is 100, it is just 74 in Delhi.

Longest rail link: The longest rail link in the Soviet Union connecting Baikal Lake in Siberia and the Soviet Pacific coast, some 3,200 km apart, is now under construction. Passing through one of the most difficult terrains, obstructed by impassable Taiga, rocky mountains, unspanned turbulent rivers, it will provide, on completion, a direct link

between Moscow and the Soviet Union's far eastern fringes close to the North American continent.

World's largest telescope: The world's largest optical telescope with the main mirror six metres in diameter is successfully functioning in the Karachayev-Cherkers mountains of the Soviet Union at an altitude of 2,170 metres.

In this area 38 per cent of nights are good and 58 per cent of them are adequate for astronomical observations.

The BTA (the big azimuthal telescope), manufactured at the Leningrad Optico-Mechanical Complex, is 42 metres high and its rotating cupola weighs about 1,000 tonnes. The telescope has the world's highest capacity to catch the light of the low-luminosity stars, enabling scientists to watch the most distant objects in the universe.

INTELLIGENCE TEST (Contd. from page 528)

12. 14. (Alternately double and subtract two and halve and add two.)
13. It can be done in one weighing only. Number the boxes, then take one bolt from box No. 1, two bolts from box No. 2, three from box No. 3, and so on. Put all the bolts (78) on the scale, and number of ounces by which the total weight is short of 78 lb is the number of the box which has been wrongly packed. For example, if the total weight registered were 77 lb. 11 oz., it would be obvious that five bolts of seventy-eight were each one ounce short weight and, therefore, box No. 5 is the one we are looking for.
14. 3.) (The lines of drawings in column 2 are taken away from those in column 1 to make those in column 3.)
15. (a) T, (b) F, (c) F.
16. (c) All others are synonyms.
17. True.
18. DENT.
19. SUS. (All others have two vowels and one consonant.)
20. Gavaskar—Mushtaq; ✓
Viswanath—Sarfraz. ✓
21. A=1. (Opposite numbers total 10.)
B=8. (Beginning with 1, in an anti-clockwise direction each number is the total of the two preceding ones.)
C=2. (One number in each pair of opposites is twice the other.) →
D=5. (Adjacent numbers are equal.)
22. MODE.
23. (a).
24. *op. cit.* means 'in the work quoted', and it is a short form of the Latin *opus citatum*.

SPORTS

(Contd. from page 546)

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Doubles: Vijay Amrithraj and Anand Amrithraj beat Ross Case and Geoff Masters (Australia), 6-8, 6-4, 6-1, 6-3.

ECONOMIC SCENE (Contd. from page 514)

European Monetary System

Q. Write a short note on European Monetary System.

Ans. From January 1, 1979, the European Economic Community has switched over to what is called European Monetary System (EMS). It is the brain child of the West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and the French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. It differs from European Currency Unit (ECU) propounded by Mr Roy Jenkin, the EEC Commission President.

Objective: The primary objective of EMS is to have a stable currency. The traumatic experience of the floating exchange rate is very disappointing. It is claimed that the new system will reduce the rate of inflation and create stable conditions for the growth of world trade which the floating exchange rate system has failed to achieve.

In the new system, the values of the nine currencies of Europe will be tightly linked together so that EEC as a bloc can attack the problem of inflation. The

parity rate of exchange of each currency will be ECU-based. Adjustment equal to 2.25 per cent upward and downward will, however, be permitted within a narrow range.

Criticism: While some EEC-member countries look upon EMS as a major step forward in the development of European institutions, Britain will stay out. She regards the linking of the currencies alone as insufficient to bring about monetary and economic stability. What is needed is that this scheme must be supplemented with a close co-ordination of economic policies and transfer of resources from strong economies like Germany to the weaker ones like Italy and Britain. The critics of EMS maintain that instead of creating stability it risks creating instability. Quite opposite is the view that this reform would mark a major contribution to world currency stability and trade.

Personality Development

(Contd. from page 520)

sees only the red stop-light...
But the truly wise person is

colour-blind."

Pessimism and optimism represent extremes. There is a golden mean, and if you look at doughnut, you will see doughnut but won't forget the hole. Be a realist. Unrealistic goals will exhaust your energies and frustrate you. Keep the top of the ladder in sight, but go up by one rung at a time. Here is realism in a capsule:

The optimist says, "Please pass the cream"

The pessimist says, "Please pass the milk"

The realist says, "Please pass the pitcher"

Don't see everything through rose-coloured or dark spectacles. Recall Oliver Cromwell's instructions to Lely on the painting of his portrait: "Re-mark all these roughnesses, pimples, warts and everything as you see me, otherwise I will never pay a farthing for it." Get the whole picture and make the best of it.

Don't be a total optimist
Nor a pessimist complete
Just try to be realist
A view-point more discreet.

STATEMENT

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I, O.P. Khanna, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: 1st March, 1979

Signature of Publisher—O.P. Khanna

The Competition Master

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of Selected Words used in this issue)

aberration: deviation from the usual, normal, or right; wandering of the intellect, mental lapse.

acrimony: bitterness of feeling or language.

aggrandisement: to make greater; increase the power, rank, wealth (of a person, State).

amelioration: to make better, to improve; to grow better.

amulet: a charm carried about the person; a medicine supposed to have occult operation.

arrogant: claiming too much; overbearing.

avowed: a positive declaration; an acknowledgment, a frank confession.

blasphemy: impious or profane speaking; contempt or indignity offered to God.

boomerang: a bent missile used by the natives of Australia, sometimes so balanced that it returns towards the thrower; an act that recoils upon the agent.

conglomerate: gathered into a clow or mass.

cynicism: contempt for human nature; heartlessness.

deleterious: hurtful or destructive; poisonous.

delinquent: failing in duty—one who fails in or leaves his duty; an offender; a person lacking in moral and social sense.

denigrate: to blacken (esp. of a reputation).

derelict: forsaken; abandoned.
despotism: absolute power; tyranny.

devious: remote; out of the way; round-about; winding; erring.

diabolical: devilish.

discreet: separate; discontinuous; consisting of distinct parts; referring to distinct objects.

dogma: a settled opinion; a doctrine laid down with authority.

dour: obstinate; sullen; grim.

droll: odd; amusing; laughable—one who excites mirth.

egalitarian: equalitarian.

El Dorado: the golden land of imagination of the Spanish conquerors of America; any place where wealth is easily to be made.

empirical: resting on trial or experiment; known or knowing only by experience.

equivocal: capable of meaning two or more things; of doubtful meaning; capable of a double explanation; suspicious; questionable.

extenuate: to lessen; to under-rate; to weaken the force of.

fabulous: immense; amazing.
ferocious: savage; fierce; cruel.
flogging: to beat or strike; lash; chastise with blows.

grinch: a grumbler.
grotesque: extravagantly formed; fantastic.

guy: (U.S.) a fellow.
heterogeneity: different in kind; composed of parts of different kinds.

impunity: freedom or safety from punishment or ill consequences.

incompatible: not consistent; contradictory; incapable of existing together in harmony or at all; mutually intolerant or exclusive; irreconcilable.

inveterate: firmly established by long continuance; deep-rooted; confirmed in any habit; rootedly hostile.

malaise: uneasiness; a feeling of discomfort or of sickness.

maximalist: one who makes the fullest demands.

measly: miserable.
megalomaniac: the delusion that one is great or powerful; a mania, or passion for big things.

milieu: environment, setting, medium, element.

obliteration: to blot out, so as not to be readily or clearly readable; to efface; to close up and do away with.

oblivion: forgetfulness; a state of having forgotten.

ostensibly: showing; exhibiting.
parochial: of or relating to a parish; restricted or confined within narrow limits—of sentiments, tastes etc.

plethora: sometimes—excessive fullness of blood; over-fullness in any way.

polemics: given to disputing; controversial—a controversial writing or argument.

polity: political organisation; a body of people organised under a system of government.

pornographic: description or portrayal of prostitutes and prostitution; obscene writing, painting and the like.

pragmatic: an opinionative person.

prophylaxis: preventive treatment.

protocol: an original note, minute or draft of an instrument or transaction; a draft treaty; an official or formal account or record; a record of transfer of lands; an official formula; a body of diplomatic etiquette.

pulverize: to fall down into dust or powder.

queer the pitch: to make the place of performance unavailable; to spoil one's chances.

ransom: redemption from captivity; price of redemption; expiation; a huge sum; an extortionate price.

sceptical: of or inclined of scepticism; doubtful or inclined towards incredulity.

sojourn: sometimes—to stay for a day; to dwell for a time—a temporary residence.

sour puss: a sour tempered person.

stille: to stop the breath of by foul air or other means; to make breathing difficult for; to suffocate; to choke down.

stooge: a performer speaking from the auditorium; an actor's feeder; a stage butt; a subordinate or drudge; a scapegoat.

supinely: lying on the back; leaning backward, inclined, sloping; negligently inert; indolent; passive.

theocracy: that constitution of a state in which God, or a god, is regarded as sole sovereign, and the laws of the realm as divine commands rather than human ordinances—the priesthood necessarily becoming the officers of the invisible ruler.

traumatic: condition due to a wound.

trudging: to walk with labour or effort; a heavy or weary walk.

utopia: any imaginary state of ideal perfection.

vandalism: destroying of what is beautiful.

vendetta: blood-feud.

vulnerable: capable of being wounded; liable to injury, or hurt to feelings; open to successful attack.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected etc.

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini: Proclaimed President of Iran.

Dr Mehdi Bazargan: Appointed Prime Minister of Iran.

Karim Sanjabi: Foreign Minister of Iran.

Chadli Benjedid: Elected President of Algeria.

Col. Denis Sasson Nguesso: Appointed President of Congo.

Charan Singh: Appointed Union Minister for Finance with designation of Deputy Prime Minister.

Jagjivan Ram: Union Minister for Defence elevated to the rank of Deputy Prime Minister.

Rabi Ray: Appointed Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare.

H.M. Patel: Appointed Union Minister for Home Affairs.

Ram Kinkar: Appointed Union Minister of State for Works and Housing.

Narsingh Yadav: Appointed Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Chemicals.

Jagbir Singh: Appointed Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting.

Janeshwar Mishra: Appointed Union Minister of State for Energy.

Fazlur Rahman: Minister of State for Energy shifted to Planning Ministry.

J.P. Yadav: Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare shifted to Ministry of Industry.

Admiral R.L. Pereira: Appointed India's Chief of the Naval Staff on February 28.

Justice Krishna Ballabh Narayan Singh: Chief Justice

of the Patna High Court appointed acting Governor of Bihar.

M.L. Shahare: Appointed Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission.

Diplomats

M.K. Rasgotra: Appointed Ambassador of India to France.

Dr George Hennig: Appointed Ambassador of Austria in India.

Krishnan Raghunath: Counsellor in the Embassy of India, Moscow appointed Ambassador of India to German Democratic Republic.

Distinguished Visitors

Alecos P. Michaelides: President, House of Representatives of Cyprus.

Datok Hussein Bin Onn: Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Malcolm Frazer: Prime Minister of Australia.

General Widodo: Chief of the Army Staff of Indonesia's National Army.

Bjartmar Gjerde: Oil and Energy Minister of Norway.

A.R. Soehoed: Industry Minister of Indonesia.

R. Chisupa: Minister for Industry, Commerce and Foreign Trade of Zambia.

Resigned

Jagannath Kaushal: Governor of Bihar.

Ram Naresh Yadav: Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

Died

Nelson A. Rockefeller: Former U.S. Vice-President.

Liu Shao-chi: Former President of China.

Edvard Kardelj: President Tito's closest aide.

EVENTS

JANUARY

24—Charan Singh returns to No. 2 position in the Central Cabinet as Union Minister for Finance with the designation of Deputy Prime Minister. Mr Jagjivan Ram, Defence Minister, also elevated to the rank of Deputy Prime Minister. Mr Rabi Ray appointed Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare.

30—The Chief Election Commissioner, Mr S.L. Shukla, declares the Chikmagalur Lok Sabha seat vacant, ruling that the expulsion of Mrs Indira Gandhi meant simultaneous vacation of her seat.

FEBRUARY

6—The Supreme Court of Pakistan upholds death sentence to Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, former Prime Minister.

9—Ayatollah Khomeini, the religious opposition leader of Iran, calls for the Shah-appointed Prime Minister, Dr Shapour Bakhtiar, to resign.

10—Mini-civil war rocks Teheran.

11—Dr Shapour Bakhtiar, the Iranian Prime Minister, quits as army withdraws support.

—Atal Behari Vajpayee, India's foreign minister, visits China.

12—Dr Mehdi Bazargan becomes Prime Minister of Iran.

13—India recognises the new Iranian Government headed by Dr Bazargan.

14—Execution of Bhutto stayed.

—Ram Naresh Yadav, Chief Minister of U.P. quits after failing to get confidence vote.

17—China invade Vietnam.

18—Atal Behari Vajpayee comes back cutting short his China visit by a day in view of the Sino-Vietnam armed conflict.

—Russia warns China to stop armed conflict with Vietnam before it is too late.

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Letter from the Editor

Weather-watchers

Dear Reader,

I am sure you are not one of those weather-watchers. Your very interest in the regular study of CM testifies it. It is indicative of your seriousness about your career, your future; your hunger to be abreast of the day-to-day happenings in the national and international panorama; to be well-informed in every branch of knowledge. And above all, it shows your burning desire to be something one day.

But there are those for whom weather is always the alibi to make a start—whether it is commencing morning walk or study and so on—the list can be unending.

For them it should be enough to quote what Pascal said: "The weather and my mood have little connection. I have my foggy and my fine days within me." And to quote another proverb:

To talk of the weather, it's nothing but folly

For when it rains on the hill, it shines in the valley.

With best wishes for all of you.

Yours sincerely,

Editor

A Triumph for Kosygin

THE basic purpose of Mr Alexei Kosygin's week-long visit to India was, of course, political, not economic, and the comprehensive trade agreements and protocols which were signed on March 14 could have been reached without the high-level diplomacy which New Delhi witnessed. It is nobody's case that the documents signed by leaders of the two countries to develop trade and economic cooperation and to barter Indian rice for Soviet crude were not important. These agreements have helped to strengthen the ties between the two countries, and India will surely benefit from the Soviet gesture in offering assistance in various fields. But economic ties between the two countries have been developing anyhow over the years. The latest understandings enlarge the mutually beneficial Indo-Soviet relations in economic, technological and cultural fields which often lay the basis for closer cooperation in political matters, especially collaboration in the diplomatic and international spheres.

Moscow's concern over India's efforts to normalise relations with Peking was no secret. The growing amity between China and the U.S.A. has already isolated the Russians who have been fearing that their giant ideological enemy, China, has outmanoeuvred it and even encircled it with the full collaboration of the powerful Americans who have switched their global strategy by joining hands with their traditional rival.

China's blatant aggression against the Vietnamese provided the handle which Russia sought, and in Delhi the Soviet Prime Minister played his trump card well, succeeding at last in persuading India to join it in calling for an immediate withdrawal of the Chinese forces from Vietnamese territory without linking with it the demand for withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia, now named Kampuchea.

This was a concrete gain to the Soviet Union and a partial climbdown from New Delhi's earlier stand according to which aggression was

aggression wherever it took place and that, logically, the Vietnamese must also vacate their aggression against Cambodia. It was a difference of degree because of the internal rebellion of the Cambodian people against the unpopular Pol Pot regime. But Vietnamese intervention in Cambodia, with Soviet backing, was also a fact. It is significant that in the lengthy joint communique signed by Mr Kosygin and Mr Morarji Desai there is no reference at all to the Cambodian struggle.

With the 1971 Indo-Soviet Treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation and the joint declaration of October 26, 1977, as the basis, the two countries have emphasised their ties which have been growing "from strength to strength and have stood the test of time". The treaty has continued to serve as "an important factor for peace and stability in Asia and in the whole world" (it was a diplomatic achievement when India was facing a threat on the eve of the Bangladesh war of independence in December, 1971). The communique reiterates the determination to promote the friendship between Delhi and Moscow in the interest of the peoples of both countries, detente, international security and world peace. Indo-Soviet friendship, it says, bears eloquent testimony to how relations between countries with different socio-economic systems can develop constructively when they are based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, strict observance of sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. By implication, Chinese tactics of interference in the internal affairs of other countries and their failure to respect the sovereignty of other nations stands condemned.

Mr Kosygin's visit and the wording of the joint communique thus mark a diplomatic victory for the Russians and, by implication, a setback to the Chinese and the Americans. The Russians have, in effect, retained India within their sphere of influence.

Current National Affairs

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nationals

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Public Sector in Politics ?

Savage Taxation in 1979-80 Budget

The Central Budget presented by Mr Charan Singh, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, on February 28 contained a record tax package which hit the urban classes very hard, making almost everything costlier; but the Finance Minister went out of his way to give substantial concessions to farmers, thus making the Budget pronouncedly rural-oriented—a farmers' Budget.

The staggering list of items of common consumption which have been taxed to raise a record Rs. 665 crores as additional revenue, includes kerosene, diesel, petrol, matches, cigarettes, processed food, coffee, soap, tooth-brushes and tooth-paste, cooking gas, steel furniture, biscuits, cosmetics, radios, TV sets and several other items.

As a political gesture to farmers, the Budget lowers (or removes in some cases) the duties on fertilisers, light diesel oil, power tillers and raw tobacco to boost agricultural production and provide incentives to farmers. Exemption have been given to some small and labour-intensive industries while mechanised competitors continue to pay taxes.

Despite the huge tax effort of Rs. 665 crores—of which Rs. 205 crores goes to the States—Mr Charan Singh leaves a record deficit of Rs. 1,355 crores uncovered. Because of the food and foreign exchange reserves and the restrictionist monetary policies, Mr Charan Singh, hoped nevertheless to maintain

“reasonable price stability”.

Mr Charan Singh justified his novel Budget by saying that he had attempted to put the maximum emphasis on agricultural and intensive industry because it had been accepted by all that only that way can we eradicate poverty and unemployment in the country.

While claiming that he had not ignored large industries and infrastructure, the Finance Minister added that he had no sympathy with those industries which cater to the wants of the rich—“a visible manifestation of the disparities which exist in society.”

The three objects of his taxation measures are as follows: first, to minimise income disparities; second, to increase production and avoid waste; and third, to eliminate unemployment and under-employment by stimulating agricultural production, by encouraging labour-intensive techniques of production and by improving the competitive capacity of small-scale and cottage industries in relation to large-scale industry.

As for direct taxes, apart from raising the surcharge on income tax for individuals and companies, Mr Charan Singh also raised wealth tax and announced continuation of the Compulsory Deposit Scheme for another two years. He promised measures against “black money”.

Taxes at Glance

Surcharge on non-corporate taxpayers has been raised from 15% to 20% to yield Rs. 46

crores in a full year and Rs. 37 crores in 1979-80. The Compulsory Deposit Scheme for income-tax payers will continue for two years more. Wealth tax on high slabs has been raised from 2.5% to 3%. Besides, the additional tax on net wealth of Rs. 15 to 20 lakhs has been raised from 3.5% to 5%. The surcharge on Income-tax in case of companies has been raised from 5% to 7.5%. A new tax is levied on gross receipts of luxury hotels to curb ostentatious consumption.

Income-tax exemption for donations by approved institutions for rural development programmes; exemption has also been granted from income-tax to State Khadi Village Industries Boards. On steel furniture the duty will go up from 21% to 35%. High priced radio sets and radiograms will pay excise duty at 40% instead of 36.75%. On pressure cookers the duty will go up from 10.5% to 15%. For domestic electrical appliances the duty will go up from 26.25% to 30%. On safes etc. it will go up from 21% to 35%. Soaps, tooth-brush, tooth-paste and detergents have also been brought under duty revision, but goods produced by small units in the decentralized sector will not be adversely affected. Excise duty on instant coffee has been raised from 21% to 25%. Excise duty on soda water will be raised from 15.75% to 20%.

Excise duty on prepared or preserved food and biscuits to be increased from 10.5% to 15% and on chewing gum from 10.5% to 20%. Excise duty on cosmetics and toilet preparations barring perfumed hair oil will rise from 63% to 100%. The duty on air-conditioners will be raised from 105% to 110% and stereo and hi-fi sets will pay more—from 26.75% to 40%. Exemption from Capital gains tax has been withdrawn.

People of all categories and all incomes will be affected by the increase in the prices of postal articles, telephone and telegram charges; inland letters and envelopes will cost five paise more; each local phone call will cost 10 paise more. The price of petrol will be up by about 55 paise a litre, of kerosene and high speed diesel by about 10 paise a litre, cooking gas will cost much more, pressure cookers will be up by 4.5 per cent, safes by 14 per cent and steel furniture by 4 per cent. Life-saving drugs will be cheaper.

The total Central revenue during 1979-80 is estimated at Rs. 10,749 crores (an increase of Rs. 4,600 crores over 1978-79); revenue deficit is put at Rs. 647 crores plus Rs. 4,600 crores; overall gap—Rs. 1,355 crores, the expenditure is put at Rs. 18,526 crores, and the overall deficit at Rs. 1,975 crores.

Higher Defence Grant

The expenditure on Defence has been raised from Rs. 2,845 crores in 1978-79 to Rs. 3,050 crores in 1979-80; the Army's share is Rs. 1,895 crores, the Air Force's Rs. 661 crores and the Navy's Rs. 210 crores. The balance covers the expenditure on the Defence Ministry, pensions and capital outlay for the forces. For the Navy most of the additional grant will be spent on strengthening the fleet and modernising the equipment and installations.

The total Plan outlay for 1979-80 for the Centre, the States and Union Territories will be Rs. 12,511 crores, marking an increase of 7.4 per cent over the previous year's outlay of Rs. 11,649 crores. There are higher allocations for rural development.

Budget Impact on Prices

The general impact of the drastic increase in taxes in the Union Budget has been a 20 to

25 per cent rise in prices and in the cost of living, on an average, but officials claimed, as usual, that prices would rise only nominally. On March 1, Finance Ministry officials said the impact of the General and Railway Budgets on the wholesale price index would be no more than one per cent, and on the consumer price index only 0.5%.

The Economic Affairs Secretary, Dr Manmohan Singh, said that budgetary levels were a very small part of the factors affecting prices, and given the considerable downward pressures on agricultural prices, he did not anticipate any inflationary impact at all, despite the record taxation and deficit financing. The wholesale and consumer price indices were no higher than in September, 1974, despite several doses of massive taxation and budgetary deficits.

This price stability had few parallels in contemporary history. The whole point of a Budget was to take calculated risks to spur development.

He clarified that the cut in duty on fertilisers would be passed on to farmers, and fertiliser companies would not be able to appropriate any of the benefits.

Subsidies have increased in the Budget despite the exhortations in the Economic Survey to the contrary. The food subsidy is expected to decrease marginally from Rs. 570 crores (revised estimate 1978-79) to Rs. 560 crores. But the fertiliser subsidy will shoot up from Rs. 319 crores to Rs. 448 crores, quite apart from the duty concessions on fertilisers worth Rs. 105 crores. Cash assistance for exports is expected to drop to Rs. 315 crores from Rs. 381 crores in 1978-79, but experience shows that the budgeted sum is usually an under-estimate.

Although the Plan outlay was up by only 7.4 per cent, the actual developmental outlay was higher by 15.1 per cent. This was because Rs. 835 crores of Plan expenditure had been reclassified as non-Plan spending, something which happened in every five-year Plan.

Desai's Award on Resources

As a result of the Prime Minister's award on the allocation of additional Central resources to the States, announced at the meeting of the National Development Council on March 4, the Gadgil Formula will be applied for the remaining four years of the Plan for the Rs. 4,300 crores due to them under the Seventh Finance Commission recommendations. For the Rs. 2,000 crores that has become available as a result of dropping of some centrally-sponsored schemes, the formula to be adopted will take into account the poverty levels of the States by multiplying the population by the inverse of the *per capita* income.

The "income adjusted to poverty", or IATP, formula benefits six States—Bihar by Rs. 76 crores, Madhya Pradesh by Rs. 8 crores, Orissa by Rs. 23 crores, Tamil Nadu by Rs. 19 crores, U.P. by Rs. 82 crores and West Bengal by Rs. 2 crores—as compared to the amounts that would have become available to them if the Gadgil Formula had been applied to the Rs. 2,000 crores also.

The way has thus been cleared for the Sixth Plan. The next meeting of the NDC is expected to be held by May to endorse the finalised Sixth Plan, a document which will include projections for another year in terms of the "Rolling Plan" concept that has been introduced. The final Plan document will keep the size intact at Rs. 69,345 crores but will now clearly indicate the Central and State

sectors. The sectoral outlays indicated in the draft are not expected to undergo substantial changes.

The Annual Plans of the States for 1979-80 have been finalised on the basis of the Gadgil Formula in respect of the amount due to them as if the Centrally-sponsored schemes had not been dropped. Marginal changes will now be made to take into account the Desai Award which will continue to be applied until 1982-83.

Railway Budget—1979-80

For the third year in succession the Railway Budget contained no proposals for an increase in passenger fares, though in order to make up the substantial shortfall in railway earnings and to finance the development projects, seasonal tickets and short-distance journeys were made costlier by the Railway Minister, Mr Madhu Dandavate, while presenting the Budget in the Lok Sabha on February 20. Moreover, a supplementary charge was levied (5 per cent up to distances of 500 km. and 10 per cent beyond 500 km.) on all goods traffic, except salt. The Budget estimated a surplus of Rs. 27.73 crores in the year 1978-79, and a much larger surplus of Rs. 88.49 crores for 1979-80.

Two other features of the new budget were notable; one, to mark the "Year of the Child" the age limit for free travel for children was raised from three years to five years. This concession would mean some relief to people travelling by rail with their families. This concession will be permanent and not only for 1979. The commuters in and near metropolitan cities will have to pay much more for their journeys, but other passengers travelling by mail, express or ordinary trains will not have to pay higher fares. Kisans travelling to visit national fairs

and exhibitions will be given concessions. The existing concession of 3/4th of the normal fare when travelling in small groups of 20 and more, and two-thirds of the fare when travelling in special trains, will henceforth be extended to them for industrial and agricultural exhibitions.

An interesting feature is that in mail and express trains drinking water will be supplied from "matkas" and "surahis" and in carthen "kullars".

The selective increases in fares and freight will bring an additional revenue of Rs. 178 crores in 1979-80.

A sum of Rs. 42 crores has been set apart for new rail lines. The impact of the freight increases is that wheat and rice will cost 14 paise more per quintal; pulses 16 paise, vegetable oils 35 paise more; coal Rs. 4.50; iron and steel Rs. 15.40 more per quintal.

On March 8, in response to the plea of M.P.s from various political parties, the Railway Minister announced a few concessions to suburban commuters by a 50 per cent cut in the proposed increase in the monthly season ticket fares for second class. Season ticket fares for journeys beyond 60 kms will now be equivalent to only 9 journeys in a month at normal fare. Below 60 kms. the fare will range between 10 and 20 journeys as against 7 and 14 journeys now. The quarterly season ticket fares will also be restored to 2½ times the monthly season ticket fares. The cut will also apply to journeys beyond 150 kms.

Recruitment for Foreign Jobs

Following the recent scandals in respect of recruitment for jobs in foreign countries, especially in Africa and the Middle East, the Government of India decided on March 5 to regulate

the emigration of workers from this country so that the various agencies are checked from exploiting innocent people seeking employment abroad. The Union Government proposes to register the recruitment agencies on an annual basis. No worker will be allowed to be sent abroad unless the requisite permission has been obtained from the Ministry of Labour.

It was reported that the workers were tempted to go to oil-rich Sheikdoms on good emoluments, but were actually exploited inasmuch as the recruiting agencies took huge advances from them or managed to secure cuts. Members of Parliament and other publicmen had asked the Government to ensure that the new recruits got reasonable terms and conditions and they were not made a sort of bonded labour.

According to a Gazette notification, the recruiting agency will be required to furnish to the government a copy of the terms and conditions of the agreement under which the worker is proposed to be employed. The items expected to be provided in the agreement include free accommodation appropriate to the status of the employee, free transport to go to the place of work if the distance is more than a kilometre from the work site, free passage from the residence of the employee in India to the country of employment and back, payment of compensation in case of disability, free medical treatment and provision of remittances of earnings with a minimum of 10 per cent.

A provision is proposed in the agreement for a suitable machinery for settlement of disputes relating to the employment contract. A member of the Indian Embassy will be invariably associated with the settlement machinery. Before an agency is registered, it is required to give detailed infor-

mation in regard to its background, financial status, recruitment details and history of disputes, if any, with the Indian or foreign Government.

New Agreements with Russia

As a result of nearly a week's talks with Indian leaders in New Delhi (March 9 to 14), Mr Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, came to certain clear understandings with the Government of India. Apart from a complete agreement on the stand in respect of China and Vietnam (a few reservations apart, and these too indicate only a difference in emphasis, not on principle), five wide-ranging agreements were signed between the two countries on March 14. These agreements cover several fields and are designed to promote cooperation between the two countries in economic, trade, technical and scientific fields over fairly long periods ranging between 10 to 15 years.

One agreement covers the major projects such as Visakhapatnam steel plant, the East Coast Alumina project, the Mathura refinery, the Singrauli and Raniganj coal-fields, the Ramgarh coal washery and the Malanjkhand copper project. The second agreement related to cooperation in medical sciences and certain public sciences. The third covered the free gift of agricultural machinery and motor vehicles for the Suratgarh State farm.

The fourth, and in many ways the most important from the standpoint of India's immediate needs, was the one that related to the exchange on a barter basis of 600,000 tonnes of Soviet crude (including kerosene and diesel) for certain unspecified quantities of Indian rice. Originally, the Soviet Union had asked for wheat but when Mr Morarji Desai pointed out that India had already made

commitments to supply wheat to certain other countries (3 lakh tonnes to Vietnam for example) and offered rice instead, Mr Kosygin and his aides readily agreed. India's huge food-grain surpluses at present have, fortunately, made such a satisfactory barter deal possible at a crucial time when this country has been facing a critical situation on the oil front as a result of the disruption of oil supplies from Iran and the decision of certain oil producers to raise the prices of their crude over and above the 14.5 per cent phased price hike in 1979, decided upon by OPEC at the end of December, 1978. The prices to be paid by each country for these commodities are to be determined later, and it is understood that these will be related to the world price which means, in all probability, the OPEC price for Soviet oil.

Another protocol signed by the two countries relates to the cultural exchange programmes for 1979-80. This protocol provides for the exchange of sports teams in view of the Moscow Olympics scheduled for 1980. Mutual visits of groups of children are also provided for to mark the Year of the Child.

The net result of the new Indo-Soviet economic understandings will be that the Bhilai and Bokaro steel plants will be expanded to reach a capacity of four million tonnes each annually and further expansion will be assured after the design work now in progress is completed.

There will be increased cooperation in oil exploration, production and refining; a long-term techno-economic perspective plan (1981-1990) will be prepared for exploring and developing onland oil and natural gas reserves in India.

Besides, joint studies are to be undertaken for irrigation, dam construction of various

types, exchange of materials for better crop production, plant breeding, pest control, etc.

Plans for joint ventures in third countries have also made progress; there is to be greater cooperation in machine and tool building operations.

Indo-Soviet trade will develop further and provisions have been made for such development until 1990. The growth rate of trade between 1981-85 will not be less than the present rate; later, the rate may even increase.

Agreements have also been signed to cover research and advances in medical sciences and health projects. Thus there will be all-round collaboration between India and the Soviet Union in many spheres of important economic activity.

Power Tussle in Indian Ocean

Following the revolution in Iran, the switchover in Afghanistan and the prolonged conflicts in the Far East, more and more U.S. and Soviet ships are now in the Indian Ocean, turning the area once again into a cockpit of international rivalry, plotting and counter-manoevres.

According to reports, the U.S.A. has decided to keep a naval fleet in the Indian Ocean permanently. The Fifth Fleet is already stated to be on the move and the presence of this fleet in the area, it is feared, will certainly endanger the security of India and other littoral States. This move by the USA counters the policy of India and other peace-loving countries to make the Ocean a zone of peace. The Government of India is keeping an active vigil on the increasing number of ships belonging to the Super Powers in the Indian Ocean. The Indian Navy is being progressively modernised to guard against all dangers to security of the coun-

try from the sea.

The Budget for the Indian Navy, as a proportion of the total Budget outlay on defence, was between 35.9 per cent and 38.6 per cent during the past three years.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union has claimed that it has no base in the Indian Ocean.

Declining Role of Women

Despite all the loud talk of "Women's Decade" and of all-out campaigns for ensuring a more important role to women in the economic and political life in India, the fact is that the number of women workers in the country has been declining over the years. The number of women M.P.s and M.L.A.s has also been declining. In fact there has been a tremendous erosion of women's working force in the vital income and wealth producing sectors of the Indian economy since the turn of the present century.

This has been stated in a study by the Indian Council of Social Science Research on employment among Indian women over the past 10 decades from the beginning of the census in India in 1872.

The report says although differences between concepts and definitions of data and "jurisdictional changes of political divisions" of the pre-1901 and post-1901 periods made it difficult to present a comparable series of employment, the post-1901 study shows that the process of decline in employment among Indian women actually started much earlier. The index of women workers fell dramatically from the base 100 in 1901 to 96 in Government and other such services, 82 in construction activities, 75 in forestry, fishing and plantations, 55 in owned cultivation, 47 in household industry and 25 in trade and commerce in 1971.

This decline occurred despite a more than 100% increase in women's population from 100 to 224 and the women labour force in the age-group 15-59 going up also by about 100% (from 100 to 200) during the 70-year period.

The only sector which has been showing improvement in women's employment is transport, communication and storage where the work participation index went up to 191, but the absolute base of women employment in this sector (only 76,600 women employed in 1901) is small enough to render this increase insignificant. There has been enough evidence to suggest that much of the employment among women has been mainly in the poverty-oriented service sector to cater to the personal and other services germinating from increase in population.

Role of State Governors

The important and multi-sided role and functions of State Governors were highlighted at a conference of Governors held in Delhi on March 3 and 4. The issues emphasised this year included the urgency of reducing the mounting expenditure on administration, the growth in Naxalite activity in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar, student unrest and the failure of State Governments to mobilize resources for development.

The President of India opened the conference with an address that surveyed the current situation and stressed the independent role of Governors. The Prime Minister, the Finance Minister and the Home Minister also addressed the conference. Mr Desai asked the Governors to reduce the expenses on the administration and make it service-oriented. He stressed the need to curtail the staff strength to achieve economy and efficiency. In Mr Desai's

view, the Governors could set an example of austerity for their Governments.

Mr Charan Singh, who explained his Budget proposals to the conference, said the Centre had written off the deficits of all the States so that they could start with a clean slate. He reminded the State Governments that it would not happen again in future; the Seventh Finance Commission had given them a large percentage of funds.

Several Governors emphasized that not only students but also teachers and non teaching employees of universities and other educational institutions had taken to direct action. They called for steps to curb the malaise at the national level. The Governors of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar reported growth of extremist activity in their States, stressing the need for a close watch on Naxalites.

The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission complained that the State Governments had failed to keep their commitments to raise adequate resources for development. He said only three or four States had mobilized resources; the loan mechanism would crumble if the financial institutions remained burdened with overdues.

The Home Minister asked the Governors to submit to the Centre "impartial reports" on occurrence of communal and other violence in their States. He also asked them to study the interim report of the Police Commission.

It was felt that the Governors not only had certain formal and routine functions to perform but also had to act as the "eyes and ears" of the Central Government.

Dalai Lama and Tibet

In recent weeks there have been several reports indicating that the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan god-king, who has been living in this country for nearly 15 years through the courtesy of the Government of India, may return to Tibet from where he fled following persecution by the Chinese. Mr Morarji Desai has often stated that the Indian Government will not compel the Dalai Lama to quit this country; he is free to return to Tibet if he likes. Rumours of repeated feelers from Peking have been floated, but the Dalai Lama has said he would consider returning to Tibet only if he was satisfied about the conditions there.

On March 13, the Panchen Lama, who like the Dalai Lama is regarded as an incarnation of the Buddha and has been living in Peking as a high ranking member of the Chinese Communist Party, again invited his traditional rival, the Dalai Lama, to return home to the motherland. He urged the Dalai Lama and other Tibetans living outside Tibet to "cast away their doubts" and return home.

The Panchen Lama has sided with the Chinese since the turn of the century and is regarded by many Tibetans as a traitor. He has stated that the Tibetan people are now "immeasurably better than they were under the serf system."

The Dalai Lama has, however, said he would like to be given an opportunity to have a look at the conditions in Tibet before making a final decision. A Chinese news agency despatch said the Panchen Lama intended to visit Tibet this year and is at liberty to stay there as long as he chose. The Panchen Lama has denied the report that there were restrictions on his move-

ment. He is reported to be looking forward to meeting the Dalai Lama in Tibet and talking things over with him.

Nuclear Fuel for Tarapur

With the U.S. Government disinclined to send the requisite supplies of enriched uranium to keep the Tarapur atomic power plant running, India is seriously considering "alternative steps" for ensuring such supplies. The U.S.A., it appears, may not fulfil the terms of the agreement with this country which requires it to continue the supplies.

The Prime Minister announced in Parliament on March 7 that "India on its own would not like to break the agreement till we hear a definite 'no' from the U.S.A." The country cannot order supplies from any other country other than the U.S.A. as long as the agreement lasts. The Prime Minister had told the U.S.A. in plain words that if they break the agreement, nobody will ever trust them again. "We are looking for alternative sources since enriched uranium was expensive."

Recalling that the Indo-U.S. agreement was made by the former Government in 1974, he assured that the Janata Government would never compromise on its national interests.

Delays have occurred not because of any fault of the U.S. Administration but because of the cumbersome procedures adopted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of the USA which, under the existing procedures, has to approve the licences. The NRC has its own procedures, including as happened in the present case, public proceedings whenever there are objections raised by anyone—in this case by the environmentalists in the USA. It is the

uncontestable obligation of the U.S. Government to honour this agreement and any failure would release India from any obligation to adhere to the restrictive clauses of the contract. Whether near or remote, India is preparing itself to meet this contingency. A C.P.I. leader said the USA was "quibbling" over the wording of the agreement. The Government of India does not know when the two overdue instalments of enriched uranium will come. There is nothing in reserve while the Government, according to critics has been "bending backwards" to please the U.S. Government.

Mr Desai said, however, there was no question of surrendering to either the USA or any other nuclear power and India would never accept any nuclear safeguards enforced on it alone.

Further Prosperity of Multinationals

Despite all the talk of checking the menace of multinational power all over the world, several of these giant internationals have acquired more assets and thus made nonsense of the policies designed to reduce their influence and hold on the economy of many countries, including India.

According to a statement made in the Indian Parliament on March 13, the total assets of multinationals rose to Rs. 2,390 crores in 1977-78, from Rs. 1,160 crores in 1971-72.

The profits of these multinationals before tax in 1971-72 were Rs. 53.6 crores as against Rs. 52.3 crores in 1977-78.

Regarding the subsidiaries, their assets in the relative periods were Rs. 1,145 crores and Rs. 1,740 crores, and their profits were Rs. 170 crores and

Rs. 140 crores respectively. It has also to be noted that the remittances made by the multinationals and their subsidiaries in 1971-72 were Rs. 80.70 crores, but these rose to Rs. 115.30 crores by 1977-78.

The number of multinationals and their subsidiaries now operating in India is also interesting. According to official figures, as at the end of March, 1978, there were 473 branches and 146 subsidiaries in the country. The Government intends to amend the MRTTP (classification of goods) rules, 1971, and the attached schedule to make the legislation more effective in regulating the growth of all dominant undertakings, whether large industrial houses or multinationals, while taking account of the items of production reserved for small-scale industries.

Some additional items have been included in the schedule and some other products specified so as to pinpoint the dominant undertakings more effectively.

The basic aim, of course, is to curb, as far as possible, the operations of these multinationals and to encourage the small-scale industries, but the progress in this direction is slow owing to a multiplicity of factors and the in-built advantages which the giant firms command and fully exploit, partly because of the nature of their operations and the economies of large scale enterprises which impose a major handicap, in quality and costs of production, on other industrial undertakings, especially the smaller ones.

New Rupee Exchange Rates

There have been several revisions in the exchange value of the rupee in terms of the pound sterling in recent months,

the latest being on March 13 when the Reserve Bank announced that the new ratio would mean a depreciation of 1.79 per cent (or 30 paise).

The new middle rate has now been fixed at Rs. 16.80 per pound sterling as against Rs. 16.50 so far. The new selling and buying rates for spot delivery are—selling: Rs. 5.9347 per Rs. 100 (corresponding to Rs. 16.85 per pound); and buying: Rs. 5.9701 per Rs. 100 (corresponding to Rs. 16.75 per pound).

As a result of the recent reassessment the value of the rupee has been maintained within a wider margin of five per cent as against 2.5 per cent on either side in terms of a suitably weighed currency basket, with the pound sterling continuing to be the intervening currency.

The dollar had been falling in recent years much to the anxiety of the U.S. Government and all the countries which depend upon the dollar, but in recent weeks the dollar has shown considerable firmness in relation to the major currencies in the international market, giving a new hope to the harassed Carter Administration which has been in economic difficulties owing to the decline of the prestigious dollar.

Public Sector in Politics?

While Government rules and regulations debar employees from entering politics, for obvious reasons, the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Rajya Sabha has recommended that the Government should allow employees of public sector establishments to take part in political activities and political movements in the country.

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Current International Affairs

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War of Nerves in East

Although China announced its decision to withdraw from Vietnam on March 5-- after about 17 days of fighting resulting from its sudden aggression against Vietnam as an effort "to teach the Vietnamese a lesson" for attacking and occupying Cambodia, there was no peace in the war-torn country. Chinese forces remained in large areas, and the Vietnamese also did not facilitate the withdrawal of the Chinese but, instead, fought back bitterly and inflicted heavy casualties on the aggressor. On March 12 Chinese officials announced that their troops would continue to occupy some Vietnamese territory despite its earlier announcement to withdraw all its forces.

Meanwhile the Vietnamese have been reinforcing their troops in the northern area since they feared a Chinese trick and also because of the feeling in Hanoi that Vietnamese defences had several weaknesses which had enabled the Chinese to inflict heavy damage on northern Vietnam. The Vietnamese have recalled some troops from Cambodia and Laos. In fact, in preparation for any future offensive by the inscrutable Chinese, the Vietnamese have now reached the peak of their military build-up.

On March 11 a new dimension was added to the China-Vietnam war when tension escalated on the Laos border adjoining the Vietnam region when the Chinese massed their troops

there in a show of strength and as part of the intensified war of nerves. On the Vietnam-China border itself, fighting has been going on despite the Peking announcement of a withdrawal and a cease-fire. There is a suspicion that the Chinese announcement was a ruse.

According to foreign observers, the developments on the Laos border indicated that Peking was out to encourage and actively assist Laotian troops in their rebellion against the established regime led by former Prince Souphommouvong. Peking reports allege that Chinese experts and others numbering about 10 000 people have been expelled from Laos by the Laotian Government. Chinese aid projects have been cancelled by Laos. China, it was announced, had always supported the Laotian people "and would never let them down".

The danger of another war arises from the fact that in the event of a conflict, the Vietnamese regime would be entitled to seek Vietnamese assistance under a bilateral treaty of peace. So the next theatre of war may well be Laos, the real conflict being between China and Soviet-backed Vietnam.

A "People's Daily" editorial warned that China would "resolutely strike back" if Hanoi resumed border provocations. It claimed that China's border troops had made a "complete success" of their mission.

Vietnam's Communist Party daily *Nhan Dan* also carried an editorial claiming a "glorious

victory" for the Vietnamese army and people which, together with world public opinion, had forced the Chinese to withdraw. At the same time, Radio Hanoi declared that Vietnam reserved the right to punish any provocative acts committed by Chinese troops before, during and after their withdrawal.

The Western military analysts, sifting through the conflicting reports from the Sino-Vietnamese battle-front, believed that the Chinese decision to withdraw troops from Vietnamese territory did not necessarily mark a victory for them. While the Chinese forces did penetrate up to 32 kms inside Vietnam, they had to pay a high price with the battle-hardened Vietnamese militia inflicting heavy casualties on the advancing troops.

In fact observers are not sure whether to describe the announced Chinese pull-out as a "withdrawal" or a "retreat".

The Vietnamese claim to have inflicted upto 42,000 casualties on the Chinese during the war. While allowances must be made for propagandistic exaggeration, most Western observers believe the Chinese did meet with stiff resistance, suffering far heavier casualties than during their 1962 invasion of the northeast frontier of India and Ladakh.

The Russians who had sustained a propaganda barrage ever since the Chinese attack on their Vietnamese allies with ominous warnings to Peking to pull out "before it is too late" appear to be treating the announced Chinese withdrawal as a diplomatic victory for Moscow.

Soviet commentators who had in the initial days of the fighting accused the United States of colluding with the Chinese also seem to have changed their minds, seeing in

the whole military exercise a Chinese attempt to throw a wedge between Washington and Moscow.

End of CENTO

On March 13 Pakistan announced its decision to quit the Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO) on the ground that the alliance had ceased to be relevant to the defence and security of that country. About the middle of February the new Government of Iran had also announced that it would subscribe to the policy of non-alignment and, by implication, it had no longer any interest in CENTO. The decision of these countries to abandon CENTO membership has not come as a surprise since this organisation had already become an ineffective, and almost defunct club.

Originally the Baghdad Pact (which was dissolved following the exit of Iraq), CENTO came into existence in 1959 an organisation of Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and Britain, with the U.S.A. as an active observer, almost a godfather. The aim was to fully co-operate in defence measures and not to enter into any commitment that would be inimical to the CENTO alliance.

During the two decades of its existence, CENTO had only a few economic projects to its credit and these benefited Iran and Turkey. Actually it was designed as an anti-Communist alliance of the West. The importance of CENTO also waned as Britain's influence declined in the region and in the world as a whole.

By quitting CENTO, Pakistan has ceased to be a member of any military alliance and is hence qualified to join the non-aligned movement. Already Pakistan has been seeking membership of the non-aligned community. At the Belgrade meeting of Non-aligned Foreign

Ministers held in July, 1978, Pakistan sought (and was granted) the status of an observer, which indicated its desire to get associated with the non-aligned world.

However, Pakistan has not abandoned its reliance on the U.S.A. for military weapons and is seeking, and getting, more sophisticated military equipment from that country.

Iran Snaps Ties with S. Africa

Iran's Revolutionary Government headed by Ayatollah Khomeini broke diplomatic relations with South Africa on March 5 because of the latter's racial policies and confirmed it will cut off the white minority-ruled country's vital Iranian oil supplies.

In another step toward restoring Islamic traditions in Iran, the Government also announced that women will no longer be drafted into the Iranian armed forces for military training.

Before revolution cut off Iranian oil exports to the world, South Africa received an estimated 90 per cent of its petroleum from the Government of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, who ignored international pressure to ban oil sales as a protest against South Africa's apartheid policies of racial discrimination. The South Africans are known to have stockpiled massive amounts of oil in recent years, and are believed to be buying higher-priced oil through middlemen from the open market.

In support of the Palestinian cause the provisional Iranian Government had already broken Iran's ties with Israel and halted oil sales to the Jewish State, which received an estimated 60 per cent of its oil from Iran.

Before the collapse of the Shah's Government in February, women drafted into the armed forces underwent six months of

field training prior to being assigned to such tasks as teaching, reading and writing.

The Khomeini-led movement ousted the Shah in part because of his Western-style modernisation of Iran, which undercut traditional Muslim values, including the Islamic restrictions on women. The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Abbas Ali Entezam, announced the end to the conscription of women and also said compulsory service for men would be reduced from two years to one, a further sign that the new Government intends to pull Iran back from its role of "policeman of the Persian Gulf" developed under the Shah.

Unique Revolution in Libya

Perhaps the most unusual—and in many ways a unique—political system was set up in Libya early in March. The Government has ceased to exist, and it is said the people "now rule themselves" as they choose, indicating mob rule and utter confusion. On March 3, the "Libyan Jamahiriya" proclaimed sweeping changes in its political life, implementing the ideas of Colonel Muammar Al-Gaddafi and declaring that its Government has ceased to exist. Even the Army has been "abolished".

The revolution was timed for the second anniversary of an earlier Constitutional shake-up, in which Libya was renamed the Libyan Jamahiriya, which means "The Libyan masses".

Colonel Gaddafi, the *de facto* Head of State, gave up his post as Secretary-General of the General People's Congress and will assume no new official title.

The official news agency gave few details of how the country would function under its unique political system. It seemed clear that Colonel Gad-

dafi would remain the nation's leading figure. The new Secretary-General of the General People's Congress is Abdel-Ati Al-Abeidi, who was previously First Secretary of the General People's Committee which acted as a Cabinet.

Official sources also disclosed that the secretariat of the interior had ceased to exist, being replaced by People's Committees. The Libyan army will also vanish, giving way to the armed people. According to reports, wealth has been distributed among the people; homes belonged to those who lived in them, employees were now partners and the land belonged to no body.

ESCAP's Search for Stability

The Philippines President, Mr Ferdinand Marcos, said on March 5 that a "larger war" in Asia and the Pacific, which contains more than 55 per cent of the world's total population, "remains to be fought on the economic and social front". Addressing the opening of the 35th session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Mr Marcos urged the delegates to pursue "complete development work" to strengthen the foundation of political and economic stability in ESCAP member-countries.

Asia and the Pacific faced formidable problems in the economic field and he cited the shock of an energy crisis and the economic imbalance caused by currency and financial fluctuations in the world economy. He voiced hopes that the negotiations of a common fund for commodities to be resumed in Geneva would yield positive result. "To fail to agree to a common fund will dangerously expose UNCTAD to an atmosphere of recrimination and

debate that all should better avoid", he added.

According to Mr Marcos, the reduction of crude oil output as a result of the stoppage of production in Iran had already led to a new round of oil price increases among oil-exporting nations over and above the prices agreed upon by OPEC. The price hikes were going to hurt the development of oil-importing countries, particularly the Third World, and further aggravate the position of the most severely affected countries.

In a message, the United Nations Secretary General, Dr Kurt Waldheim, called on Asia and the Pacific and every region in the world to help bring about "a better distribution of global economic opportunity."

Iran Crisis: the New Phase

Although Ayatollah Khomeini, the religious leader of the Iranians who masterminded the overthrow of the Shah and reigns supreme, the situation in that country has become confusing. There is no stability in the Government and sharp differences have been reported on policies and attitudes of the Ayatollah and his Prime Minister, Dr Mehdi Bazargan.

On finding that Khomeini was laying undue emphasis on Islam and that his (the Ayatollah's) Revolutionary Council was running an almost parallel Government, trying the Generals and other supporters of the ousted Shah and ordering their execution, Dr Bazargan submitted his resignation on March 9 from the Prime Ministership of the Provisional Government. He found his position untenable, especially because things were being done over his head. But Khomeini turned down his resignation and gave assurance of his full support to Bazargan. He stated that orders would be

issued to bolster up the civilian Government of Bazargan and to curb the authority and powers of the Revolutionary Council appointed by Khomeini himself.

Dr Bazargan reiterated his stand; he would not continue as Prime Minister if there were provocation and if a parallel Government was run which would make his position totally ridiculous.

A referendum has been ordered in Iran asking the people to vote on only one issue: whether they favoured an Islamic Republic. The vote is likely to be strongly in favour of establishing an Islamic Republic (as advocated by Khomeini) rather than a democracy of the Western type or at any rate a liberal regime which Bazargan favours.

Meanwhile, Khomeini is trying to enforce a strictly orthodox regime, ordering women to wear the burqa and not to expose any part of their body, in accordance with the tenets of Islam.

Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty

Many months of sustained effort by President Carter to persuade both Egypt and Israel to sign a West Asian Peace Treaty and settle their traditional dispute seemed to have succeeded when on March 15, announcements by the Governments of both Egypt and Israel indicated their willingness to sign an accord in Washington.

In the second week of March, President Carter staked his reputation (he was under pressure at home and was determined to score a diplomatic triumph to refurbish his fading image) and resorted to the "shuttle diplomacy" for which Dr Henry Kissinger became famous in the early seventies.

At first it seemed that his efforts to bring round the two

parties would not succeed, but by continuous efforts and perseverance he succeeded in narrowing the differences between Egypt and Israel. Two rounds at Camp David at last bore fruit.

Israel has agreed to vacate the symbolic Sinai capital in the first stage of its pull-back from the peninsula. The first half of the withdrawal will be completed in nine months, and the rest of Sinai will be vacated within three years.

Egypt, on its part, agreed to send an ambassador to Israel one month after the withdrawal by Israel or 10 months after the treaty was signed. Besides, Egypt has agreed to supply oil to Israel at commercial rates; there is also the U.S. guarantee that Israel's energy needs will be met. Israel has been facing an acute oil problem following Iran's decision to stop supplies.

As expected, President Sadat's decision to sign a separate peace treaty with Israel has aroused the anger of the other Arab countries which have again threatened a boycott of Egypt, including a stoppage of oil supplies to it and non-cooperation by the Arab countries generally. But in the absence of complete unity among the Arab countries opposed to Egypt, an effective boycott of President Sadat is unlikely.

However, there is no doubt that as in his dramatic visit to Israel in November, 1977, President Sadat has taken a great risk to reaching a bilateral settlement with the Israelis.

The new treaty also implies a setback to the Soviet Union which has been hoping to stage a comeback to the Middle East since the USA virtually ousted it some years ago and established its dominance as the dominating power in the region.

ASEAN not Military Group

Clarifying the policy of ASEAN, (Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines), the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Mahathir Mohammad, announced at Kuala Lumpur on March 3 that ASEAN has no intention of acting as a military group even if the Sino-Vietnamese conflict escalates to engulf its member-countries. In a brief interview Dr Mahathir said: "ASEAN is an economic grouping and it will remain so". The Deputy Prime Minister said he hoped that the present "limited conflict" between China and Vietnam would not escalate into a conflict between Big Powers.

But if the conflict escalates, not only ASEAN but every country in the world would be affected, Dr Mahathir warned. He said Malaysia and the other members in the ASEAN grouping had signed bilateral agreements with each other which provided for limited co-operation in certain areas. "We can act bilaterally if we feel that we are being threatened."

On the question of ASEAN mediating in the conflict, Dr Mahathir said: "We are always available. Whether we are accepted is another question."

Rhodesian Crisis Deepens

While Mr Ian Smith, the power-obsessed racist Prime Minister of Rhodesia, has been planning a general election for April 20 in a bid to solve the Rhodesian crisis in his own way with the collaboration of certain loyal blacks, the United Nations Security Council on March 9 rejected the proposed poll and indicated that it would not recognise it.

The Council also adopted a resolution strongly criticising

the present bi-racial Government of Salisbury and accusing it of trying to extend racist minority rule through the April elections.

The U.N. resolution was unanimously approved (12 votes to nil). The original draft on the issue of sending U.N. observers to watch the election was softened. There were three significant abstentions from the vote—the U.S.A., Britain and France—the three White powers that have been quietly supporting the White rulers of Rhodesia.

The resolution urged all the States not to send any observers and also to discourage organisations within their territories from sending such observers. The feeling was that the presence of such observers would tend to impart to the elections a touch of authenticity and even credibility.

Delegates of both Britain and the U.S.A. explained that their political systems could not prevent the despatch of any observers to another country and keeping themselves informed about the situation. The legality or illegality of the Rhodesian regime, stressed the U.S. delegate, was not their concern.

There is, however, no evidence to show that Mr Smith had changed his plans for an election which he announced last year in a bid to impart equality to the White regime even under the cover of black majority rule and a black Prime Minister in his own place.

War in Uganda

For weeks past armed clashes have been taking place between Uganda and Tanzania—amounting to a war; the first round of the clashes ended last November but another round began in February and is continuing. Uganda has been find-

ing itself in trouble and the proud dictator, Field-Marshal Idi Amin, may soon be overthrown, so strong is the opposition against him.

The conflict began when F.M. Idi Amin sent his forces across the border to occupy about 2,000 sq. kms. of Tanzanian territory, though later they evacuated it, or claimed that they had done so. The current round is the result of a Tanzanian counter-attack to push out the aggressors and to punish the eccentric and repressive Idi Amin for whom they have intense hatred.

Until recently, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya formed the East African Community and were working in co-operation. The tension that followed the ouster of Dr Milton Obote in 1971 and the influx of refugees into Tanzania later assumed the shape of a shooting war. As a result of the eccentric policies and the virtual lunacy that seemed to affect his actions, Idi Amin has made a nuisance of himself, and his foreign allies seem to have given him up one by one. His calls to neighbouring countries to check the Tanzanians and persuade them to accept the OAU's call for a cease-fire have had no effect.

Gen Obote, Idi Amin's sworn enemy, is active again and is leading the agitation against him. Thus the forces now threatening Kampala, the capital, comprise largely of Idi Amin's opponents, imparting to the conflict a distinct touch of a civil war. Uganda is also facing an internal economic crisis, with the U.S.A. deciding to stop buying Uganda's raw products and the fuel supplies dwindling to zero.

Ethiopia's Policy Switch

A significant change is taking place in Africa which may

affect the balance of power to the disadvantage of the Soviet Union. After the loss of Somalia as a Communist-dominated base, the Soviet Union concentrated its efforts on winning over Ethiopia and gradually established its control and "friendship" with the Leftist regime there, much to the displeasure of the U.S.A. which felt that the Russians were gaining yet another foothold in Africa.

For many months the regime in Ethiopia relied almost totally on the Soviet Union for guidance and assistance, but lately a change is coming over. There has been a growing tendency in that country to look to the West for contacts and links so as to reduce the dominance of the Russians. Western diplomats are being encouraged to visit the country and Western businessmen are being allowed to explore the possibilities of promoting trade with Ethiopia.

May be this new approach reflects the new sense of confidence among the rulers and their desire to appear impartial, at any rate to shake off the impression that it is a satellite of the Russians. The immediate explanation for this sense of confidence is the end of the internal wars in that country and the restoration of peace and of relative stability.

But it has to be noted that it was the Russian military equipment and Russian military commanders who enabled the Ethiopians to smash the Somalis in the Ogaden region where fighting continued for many months. In Eritrea, where the Moslem Arab people of the former Italian colony, which was annexed by Haile Selassie in 1962, have been fighting for 17 years, the Cuban-trained Ethiopian militiamen spearheaded the incoming forces.

In 1978 the Eritreans controlled about 95 per cent of the region and most of the towns, but now the Ethiopian army (through Soviet assistance) dominates the area. The Eritreans are on the run but they have not accepted defeat and have vowed to fight on.

The Ethiopian leader, Col Mengistu, has also been wooing President Numeiry of Sudan to close the rebel supply routes through Port Sudan. There are about 300,000 Eritrean refugees in Sudan whom Numeiry wishes to send back. The chances depend upon Addis Ababa authorities promising autonomy for Eritrea within the State of Ethiopia. Both the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. support this plan.

More Concentration of Wealth

Further evidence of concentration of wealth by the world's Big Powers was made available through a balance sheet of S.D.R.s available on March 4 through the International Monetary Fund. Official reserves of industrial countries rose by nearly 21 billion S.D.R.s (one S.D.R. is approximately equivalent to \$1.80) in 1978. This is an extension of a trend that witnessed a rise in the industrial countries' reserves by 62.5 billion S.D.R.s or 63.8% in the four years since the end of 1974.

There has been a spurt in the industrial countries' official reserves by 15 billion S.D.R.s in the last two months of 1978. This could be ascribed to the measures undertaken to shore up the U.S. dollar and the affected official reserve holdings; the transactions undertaken in support of foreign exchange market stability resulted in sizeable additions to some countries' reserves. There were also considerable changes in the

market values at which reserve holdings were recorded. The entire increase in the industrial countries' reserves has been in the form of foreign exchange, other than gold, S.D.R.s or reserve positions in the fund.

The largest percentage increase in official reserves in 1978 was recorded by Switzerland, with a gain of SDR 5,165 million (45.4%), while France, West Germany, Italy and Japan showed substantial gains in 1978, with increases of SDR 2,300 million (27.4%), SDR 8,640 million (26.4%) and SDR

1,807 million (18.9%), respectively.

The developing countries have resolved on a "medium-term action plan" toward the objective of a global system of trade preference among themselves. According to the document issued at the Arusha Ministerial meeting of the developing countries in February, priority should be given to the strengthening and linking up of the existing sub-regional preferential schemes, as well as expanding the scope of bilateral arrangements.

National Affairs

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The Committee, which was headed by Mr V. Menon and released its report on March 13, has referred to the Allahabad High Court verdict which strikes down Regulation 4 of the Bombay Port Trust Employees Conduct Regulations, 1976, which prohibited participation of its employees in politics.

The provision, which the High Court struck down and which decision was upheld by the Supreme Court, reads as follows: "4. Taking part in politics and election. No employee shall be a member of or be otherwise associated with, any political party or any organisation which takes part in politics nor shall he take part in, subscribe in aid of, or assist in any other manner, any political movement or activity."

The Government of India (Ministry of Shipping and Transport), appeared not to have noticed the court's verdict. Moreover, the Bureau of Public Enterprises, the overall supervisory body, did not move in the matter at all, although the issue was of vital importance.

The Bureau chose not to inform the public sector enterprises about the judicial decision which was announced four years ago!

The Rajya Sabha Committee has urged the Government, the Home Ministry and the Bureau of Public Enterprises to get certain provisions deleted from the regulations governing the employees of all public sector undertakings in the country.

Honour

Some things the honourable man cannot do, never does. He never wrongs or degrades a woman. He never oppresses or cheats a person weaker or poorer than himself. He never betrays a trust. He is honest, sincere, candid and generous.

CHARLES W. ELIOT,
The Durable Satisfactions of Life, p.6.

China, the Vietnam War and India

The ways of the Chinese are mysterious and inscrutable; no one can probe their mind or specify their motives behind certain policies and actions until long after an event. Meanwhile they are known for striking where they like, suddenly, speedily and effectively, and then, after a certain period of their own choosing, apparently as a part of their preconceived and preplanned strategy, they announce a cease-fire and a gradual withdrawal of their forces, leaving the world guessing and baffled. But this is done after their aim is achieved.

In India in 1962 the Chinese launched an aggression and the war lasted about 33 days; after the aggressors had captured a large chunk of territory (about 50,000 sq. miles, which they described as theirs according to their own maps) they suddenly announced a halt to the operations and have stuck to the seized Indian territory ever since. On February 17, 1979, the Chinese launched a massive aggression against Vietnam and no one knew what their objective was except that perhaps they wanted to teach a lesson to the Vietnamese who had captured Cambodia (Kampuchea). An indication a week or so later that the war would be of a limited duration was later refuted.

While the other countries were getting psychologically prepared for a fairly long conflict and even a wider conflict if the Soviet Union intervened—as it threatened to do on the basis of the Treaty of Friendship it had signed with Vietnam in Novem-

ber, 1978—China announced on March 3, 1979 a cease-fire in Vietnam after they had captured the town of Lang Son. The Vietnamese had earlier vacated the town as a part of their defence strategy. Like the initial attack on February 17, the unilateral cease-fire also took the world by surprise. The Chinese announced they had offered to negotiate with the Vietnamese but the latter were reported to have refused the offer. The war lasted only 14 days.

Among the many guesses about the real motivation behind the Chinese move is one which states that the entire operation was launched to swap prisoners since about 10,000 Chinese are reported to be in the hands of the Vietnamese following the military operation against Cambodia early in January, 1979. Why China could not ask openly for a return of the prisoners and why Vietnam did not admit that it had held such a large number of Chinese prisoners can be easily explained; neither country was willing to make an indirect admission of its involvement in Cambodia, either as a supporter of the Pol Pot regime (this applied to China) or as a captor of Cambodia (this applied to Vietnam). But certain associated events had much significance. The situation has therefore to be examined in perspective and in the context of the background.

For the first time since World War II, international politics has taken an altogether

new turn, introducing complex factors in inter-State relations and marking a shift in the balance of power. In the first week of January Soviet-backed Vietnamese forces captured Cambodia (Kampuchea) and ousted the unpopular and totally inefficient Chinese-backed Pol Pot regime which was tottering anyway. This was regarded as a setback to China in the East and another notable triumph for Soviet global strategy. But China could not stand it for long and on February 17 it launched a massive attack on Vietnam as a punishment and a reprisal, captured a sizable chunk of Vietnamese territory even though the Vietnamese forces, secretly reinforced by the Soviet Union, inflicted heavy losses on the aggressors in certain sectors. It was not known how long the Chinese effort to "teach a lesson" to Vietnam would last; the "limited objective" of the war had not been defined.

But whether the war turns out to be short or long, certain features of the new threat to world peace were outstanding. The Chinese play subtle political games, whether in the fields of diplomacy, commerce, development or nuclear strategy and import of technology from the West, or the promotion of cordiality with the U.S.A. and the European countries (this marks the latest phase of Chinese foreign policy). Their basic motive is the same—to counter Soviet influence, especially in Africa and the Far East. Russia is regarded as China's biggest ideological and political enemy,

and the real tussle in the world today is between these two Communist giants, especially after the restoration of cordiality between China and the U.S.A., which until a few months ago were bitter enemies and openly condemned each other at international and other forums. For three decades or so the Big-Power alliance was between the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union, designed against the Communist giant of the East - China. Since the beginning of 1979 there has been a historic switch in big-power alliances, and now the U.S.A. and China, the erstwhile enemies, have become allies in a joint endeavour to check the growing Soviet influence in Africa and Asia, though the U.S.A. has chosen to do it subtly.

At the end of January, 1979, the Chinese Vice-Premier visited the U.S.A. to affirm the new friendship, but during his talks with President Carter and his week-long stay in that country he spared no effort to persuade the U.S.A. to align itself with his own country in a specific drive to isolate the Soviet Union. The anti-Soviet crusade which he carried on openly put the Americans in an awkward position; even while posing as a friend of China the U.S.A. did not wish to join an anti-Soviet campaign. The U.S.A. also declined to finance Peking's bid to emerge as an industrial and military giant.

The Chinese have, in fact, been talking of "three worlds" -- the two super powers (the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union), the other industrially developed countries which have been resenting the domination of the USA and the Soviet Union, and third the large number of developing countries. But the present international politics is no longer bi-polar; several new factors have emerged; there are new but powerful countries, West Germany, Japan and the world's

rich oil producers who are being wooed by the Big Powers; in short, the old equation is no longer valid. The Chinese leader's trip to the U.S.A. probably proved counter-productive because the U.S.A. realised that China was trying to entrap it in a plot which would have permanently alienated the Soviet Union. Hence it took a cautious line and went only a part of the way; it merely signed technical and trade agreements and did not make any political commitments which would have endangered its relations with Moscow. The U.S. anxiety to sign SALT-II still remains unaffected; whether the Soviet Union will now be equally enthusiastic about such an agreement is doubtful. There seems to be no doubt, however, that during the Teng-Carter talks in Washington the possibility of China taking military action against Vietnam was mentioned and the U.S.A. thus knew what was about to happen, though it maintained silence; inwardly, perhaps, the U.S.A. is happy that the Soviet Union has received a diplomatic setback through the Chinese attack on Vietnam. Russia has been frequently warning China in recent weeks against continuing the aggression and referring to the Friendship Treaty which it (Moscow) pledging full assistance to Vietnam in case of aggression. But no active military intervention by Moscow came about; instead, there were accusations and counter-accusations at U.N. forums. If the Soviet Union had intervened, a much larger military conflict would have taken place, and that would have threatened peace and stability in the entire South and South-East Asia.

Another aspect of the China-Vietnam war is the unfair manner in which India was treated by China at a time when talks were proceeding to re-establish cordiality between Delhi and Peking. The Chinese started

the aggression even while Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, India's External Affairs Minister, was in Peking holding friendly talks with the Communist leaders. But the traditionally secretive Chinese gave no inkling to the Indian leader that they were about to launch aggression against a country with which India has friendly relations; India was thus virtually deceived and taken for a ride.

The war set at naught the peace efforts of Mr Vajpayee and those of his ilk in Asia. It certainly raised suspicions in the minds of all peaceful people whether China had chosen the path of violence irrespective of the wishes and sentiments of the countries of the East and the West. Mr Vajpayee's gesture of protest against China's action by cutting short his visit was well-conceived, and it registered well among peace-loving nations. The Chinese deception was regarded as typical of Peking's ways. It quered the pitch for any move to establish friendship between Delhi and Peking for quite some time. It is evident that mutuality of interests, reciprocity, constructive co-operation and peaceful co-existence, on which India and all non-aligned nations lay so much stress, have no meaning for the Chinese.

The Chinese regard themselves as the giant in Asia and wish to make other nations, big and small, fit in their global strategy and to use them as pawns in on the diplomatic chess-board. The Chinese have displayed total lack of consideration even for a large country with continental dimensions such as India; it is obvious that it will not care about the sentiments of smaller countries and has made itself highly suspect in their eyes. History has, in fact, shown that all talk of "bhai-bhai" with China is a

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The Union Budget—a Critique

The maiden budget by the Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Mr Charan Singh, has angered many and cheered few. This feature is addressed to the 'why' and 'how' of this.
—Editor

There is hardly ever a Union budget that has not evoked a spate of bouquets and brickbats from different political parties, parliamentarians, the press, economists and interests. The maiden budget of the Union Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Mr Charan Singh, for the fiscal year 1979-80 is no exception. It has attracted very strong and mixed reactions as: "a thoughtless budget"; "a regressive budget"; "a political budget"; "an admirable effort"; "a kulak budget" and so on. In the context of the spectrum of views expressed, it is betimes to examine the budget blues.

Amidst the din of controversy on the budget, two main charges have emerged: First, the budget, as expected, has a rural-bias at the cost of the urban sector and constitutes a break-away from the traditional thinking; secondly, the package of fiscal measures adumbrated in the budget would allegedly strengthen the in-built inflationary potential in the economy. We would examine these aspects of the budget with a delineation of the broad features of the budgetary proposals.

Salient features: Since the advent of the Janata rule in March 1977, our economy has had some comforting features. These, briefly, are:

(a) *High agricultural output:* For three successive years in a row, the Nature has been benevolent. As a result, the situa-

tion on the food front has been quite "enthusiastic". We had had a record output of 126 million ton of foodgrains in 1977-78 which enabled us to maintain a buffer stock of about 20 million ton to draw upon. (The ravages of the fury of floods have been overcome with greater ease; not a grain of food had been imported; "food-for-work" programmes launched to increase employment have been possible with these stocks.) The production of cash crops—oilseeds, jute, cotton, sugarcane—has been equally encouraging. In view of this satisfactory performance of the agricultural sector, the pre-budget *Economic Survey* observes optimistically that "G.D.P. (output record) clearly indicates the strengthening of the productive potential and its tendency to stabilise at higher levels". The *Survey* predicts good prospects for 1978-79.

(b) The industrial growth for the last fiscal year was estimated at about 8 to 9 per cent.

(c) The foreign exchange reserves have, despite shortfall in exports, exhibited continuous increase and crossed the mark of Rs. 5,000 crore as at end-January 1979.

(d) The prices have shown steady behaviour during the last two years. In fact, according to official sources, there has been relative price stability, the fluctuations having been of a marginal character.

Thus, given the price stability and the rising tempo of production on the industrial and

agricultural fronts, the economy has enough resilience for a higher dose of investment. The public sector has to bear the brunt of this in the absence of responsiveness on the part of the private investor.

In the overall budgetary expenditure estimated at over Rs. 18,500 crore in 1979-80, the amount allocated for the plans of the Centre, States and the Union Territories will be Rs. 12,511 crore. It was Rs. 11,649 crore in the preceding year. The second year of the sixth five year plan, 1978-83, will have a step-up in outlay of 7.4 per cent over the first year's. The total outlay for the first two years aggregates to 34 per cent of the total amount envisaged in the entire plan period. Be that as it may, the Finance Minister, faced with the problem of resource mobilisation, has tried to resolve it through imposition of a hefty record taxation of the order of Rs. 665 crore. The irony however is that despite this the yawning deficit of Rs. 1,355 crore remains uncovered. Additional taxation apart, it is feared that the unbridged revenue-expenditure gap is likely to prove a potential source of inflation and the economy is foredoomed to a state of stagflation instead of attaining new peaks of prosperity.

It is interesting to note here that during the first two years, of the sixth plan, the Centre will have raised Rs. 5,000 crore of taxation as against the target of Rs. 6,000 crore of additional taxation for the entire plan

period. What then is the rationale for tax hike in the name of plan resources? It would be a vain hope to have a "tax holiday" in the remaining years of the plan.

Fiscal strategy: (a) *Indirect Taxes:* The fiscal strategy of the Janata's third budget, presented by the second Finance Minister, does not contemplate any structural changes in the tax frame. He makes no bones about this. As he says, he has no use for the Jha Committee's recommendations on re-structuring excise tariff on a scientific basis principally "in view of the need for resources". It is a bad fiscal approach to use budget only as an instrument for revenue raising. In the modern governments it is employed as a powerful vehicle for economic development which requires a new rationality for taxation in our country.

However, Mr Charan Singh takes the tax structure as a parameter and has placed a heavy reliance on indirect taxes. It is estimated that about Rs. 606 crore worth of Union excise duties and customs duties have been levied. What will be the effect of the indirect taxes? There are two views about this: one, that excise duties on a large number of consumption goods ranging from detergents, tooth paste, tooth brush, toiletries, coffee, biscuits, chewing gum, chocolate, cigarettes, bidis, scooters, taxis, motor spirit, cooking gas and kerosene will have a cost-push effect. The other view is that since the excise levies, unlike those imposed last year by his predecessor, Mr H.M. Patel, will not be on intermediate, but on final, products, they will fall on the ultimate consumer. If the consumers emulate the austere life style of their leaders like Mr Charan Singh, and do not use the taxed goods the irksome imposts will pass off tangentially and the efforts of the Finance Minister

to raise revenues from the excise duties will be frustrated. But that if is a big 'If'. Obviously, the incidence of these taxes will squarely fall on the middle or lower-middle classes concentrated in the urban areas for which no mercies have been shown by him.

Oddly enough, the computations of the finance ministry officials reveal an incredible figure of less than one per cent hike in prices due to the taxes proposed. Their presumption is that in the past too such fiscal policies did not generate inflationary forces. Since the economic climate will be none the worse in 1979-80, the tax effect cannot be expected to be different. These hypothetical assumptions do not convince the critics of the budgets. The latter allege that even the price stability claimed by the government has been illusory and it has not been reflected in the retail transactions which actually affect the masses. Moreover, the commodities now taxed are essentials used these days by a large majority of the people, rich or poor, in the urban as well as the rural areas.

(b) *Direct Taxes:* In order to achieve the objective of minimising (if not eliminating) the income and wealth disparities, the non-corporate tax payers are required to bear higher surcharge on income tax. This will have an effect on raising the marginal tax to the new high of 72 per cent from the present level of 69 per cent. This is reversal of the previous policy of lowering the high tax rate. It will, it is apprehended, mean a revival of the old tendency of tax evasion and tax avoidance. The forces of black money which the Finance Minister is keen to fight against will re-appear with greater ferocity. He has assured to muster "zeal and vigour" to fight black money evil but has not spelt out the methods for it in his budget speech. The

wealth tax rate has been revised upward and so has been the corporate tax. The exemption on capital gains and long-term savings has been withdrawn. Will not this innovation affect adversely production and propensity to save?

A moot question is why has the tax net not been extended to bring within its purview the affluent section of society in the villages?

(c) *Tax Reliefs:* Reduction in excise duties by about 50 per cent on chemical fertilizers, light diesel oil, exemption from customs duties on power tillers (imported) and PVC resins are obviously calculated to help the rich farmers. The argument advanced to justify it is that the rich farmers will be induced to produce more of agricultural goods which will mean increased labour demand. More of employment and less of poverty will be the results. The excise duty on unmanufactured tobacco, which yielded about Rs. 120 crore is proposed to be withdrawn as a relief to about one million tobacco growers and allied workers.

Conclusion: Raja Chelliah, the renowned expert on public finance, has characterised the budget as "un-imaginative". According to him, the tax proposals will be neutral in distribution. The Finance Minister has shelled at one stroke all previous efforts at rationalisation of taxes.

Greatness

Greatness lies, not in being strong, but in the right using of strength; and strength is not used rightly when it serves only to carry a man above his fellows for his own solitary glory. He is the greatest whose strength carries up the most hearts by the attraction of his own.

New Educational Policy

In a developing country like India with burgeoning population, abysmal poverty and growing unemployment, education must play a pivotal role. Much was expected from the Janata government on the education front. It has produced a draft policy on education. What it is and how different from the existing system of education are the moot questions. This feature examines these questions.

—Editor

The Kothari Education Commission maintained that "the destiny of India is now being shaped in her class-rooms" and that "in the rapidly changing world of to-day, one thing is certain: yesterday's educational system will not meet today's needs and even less so, the need of to-morrow". The Commission recommended a revolution in the Indian educational system in order to set in motion the much-desired social, economic and cultural revolution in the country. Both the Congress government and now the Janata government have been swearing by dynamic educational reforms. Recently, the Union Ministry of Education declared its policy statement for "a diversified, relevant and dynamic system of education which will help to remove the imbalances and inequalities in our society". The questions are: what are the policy objectives? What radicalism, if any, is proposed to be introduced in the existing educational system?

Objectives: The policy statement re-iterates that education would not be limited to imparting of knowledge only but would be functional and permit multiple entry. It would include non-formal and continuing education. It aims at universalisation of elementary education within the "next decade".

Primary Education: Consistent with these objectives, "highest priority" has been ac-

corded to primary education which would be free. Cost-based fee charges would, however, be made for the secondary and higher education. The elementary education would be universalised. Character-building and promotion of scientific temper would be emphasised. Its content would include literacy, numeracy, understanding of history, environmental science, physical education and cultural values.

Secondary Education: Education at this (secondary) stage would have two phases. The first phase would be of general education spectrum in which a student will equip himself with skills (or range of skills) and habits of self-learning for "entry into the world of work outside the school". The second phase—the vocationalised spectrum—will be designed to increase the employment potential of the students. The scheme stipulates 12 years of schooling with flexibility in the pattern of courses offered at the higher secondary stage both in regard to duration as well as content. It means the uniformity in pattern has been sacrificed at the altar of autonomy of the State governments in whose purview the subject falls. The bewildering permutations so allowed would only lead to confusion. Gujarat, for instance, plans to introduce a 715 system from the next academic year.

Higher Education: Higher education will be more restric-

tive and selective. The 'open door' policy pursued so far will be abandoned. Though pursuit of learning will be the main purpose of higher education, the degrees would be de-linked from the general run of jobs. This would go a long way in limiting the growing rush in universities and colleges for higher education which would no longer serve as a passport for jobs. Higher education upto under-graduate level will be of three-year duration, followed by post-graduate courses and research. The courses of studies will be re-structured to suit the national needs for socio-economic and cultural development. Both fundamental research and applied research will be encouraged.

Rural Bias: Consistent with the economic policy of the Janata party, the new educational policy adumbrates that there should be at least one agricultural university in every State; preferably a single-campus university with constituent colleges. These universities would also impart non-formal education and continuing education.

Adult Education: To meet the challenge of illiteracy in the country, the new policy envisages to educate 100 million out of the estimated 230 million illiterates in the age group 15-35. Adult education will be patterned to meet the interests and felt needs of the identified groups of people.

Non-formal Education: The target of universal education envisaged in the Constitution has eluded us. It has been postponed from year to year. Realizing the enormity of the problem, the policy statement provides for non-formal education for children. This will take care of the large number of drop-outs in the schools, particularly in the rural areas. The programmes will be so planned as to cover all the children in the age-group 6-14 in the next 10 years.

Examination Reform: The new policy indicates only three public examinations for the entire 15-year educational career upto the under-graduate stage. The first public examination may be held at the end of 10 years of schooling, the second at the end of the 12 years and the third at the end of the under-graduate level. At the elementary stage, there may be a school or district examination with a view to ensuring maintenance of uniform standards. Under the new examination scheme emphasis is on continuous sessional internal assessment of the students' progress.

Language: Three-language formula will be adopted throughout the educational career except at the primary stage where the medium of instruction will be the mother tongue and the university where the medium will be the regional language. The implementation of the formula would require (a) in the Hindi-speaking region, study of a Modern Indian Language, preferably a Southern language, Hindi (regional language) and English; (b) in the non-Hindi speaking region, study of Hindi along with the regional language and English. Hindi will be encouraged as a link language.

Criticism: Does the educational policy introduce any radical reforms? There is nothing

new or sensational in the policy.

Primary education in all States will be free but no time-limit has been specified for this.

There is no indication to bring education from the State to the Concurrent List with a view to injecting new blood into its anaemic body.

While it does not explicitly uphold the 10+2+3 system of education in vogue in almost all the States, it does not reject it outright either. The principle of flexibility in the pattern and duration of curriculum is only a lip service to the maxim of State autonomy. It, obviously, reflects lack of will and determination needed for educational reforms. The secondary education comprising two streams—general spectrum and vocational spectrum—permits free transfer from one spectrum to the other. Is it in any way different from the 10+2+3 system now existing? If not, why have

the pretence of producing anything new?

The Union Education Minister listed, however, six points to support the claim for the policy being a new innovation or alternative:

(1) Thrust on broad-basing education by including in it adult education; (2) Universalisation of elementary education; (3) Concrete action on non-formal education for the drop-outs and others; (4) Emphasis on development of the "whole man"; (5) Selective and restrictive expansion and admission policies for universities and colleges; and (6) Stress on education through mother-tongue or the regional language even at the highest level.

Conclusion: The draft national policy on education has nothing new or sensational in it. It has the same old cliches. What the country needs is a complete overhaul of the educational system.

China, the Vietnam War and India

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fraud; such enthusiasm soon turns into a near-permanent bye-bye.

The Chinese action had also been interpreted by international experts as reflecting a policy of expansionism and imperialism; the explanation that Vietnam had been making border raids against China and that Chinese forces merely wanted to defend their borders was an after-thought and totally unconvincing. China is a permanent member of the Security Council—a U.N. supreme agency which has the exclusive right to resolve international border disputes—but China has itself indulged in aggression. Evidently, it does not believe in peaceful negotiations and has lost considerable international goodwill by its blatant aggression against Vietnam.

The Government of India did well to declare China the

aggressor and to demand that the aggression must be vacated, without closely linking with it the Vietnamese action against Cambodia. Of course that action, too, was objectionable and India would like the aggression to be withdrawn and Cambodia left to determine its own future without outside interference, but such co-ordinated withdrawals seem unlikely at this stage. There is yet another aspect of the latest war that calls for notice; perhaps China wants to spoil India's relations with the Soviet Union which backed the Vietnamese attack on Cambodia. Russia has established itself as a reliable friend of India and it would be pointless for India to lose a friend in need. All evidence points to a realistic assessment of the situation by the Janata Government so as to safeguard the country's interests.

Science for Village Upliftment

With the shift in the thrust of economic and industrial policy of the Janata Government a quest for new technology suitable for rural development is on. Does it involve any problems? What should be the nature of such a technology? This feature is addressed to the discussion of these problems in the context of the recent address of the Prime Minister Morarji Desai at the Indian Science Congress.

—Editor

I. Introduction: Inaugurating the sixty-sixth session of the Indian Science Congress, Prime Minister Morarji Desai urged the scientists to give a new direction and thrust to science and technology in India by applying them for rural development and waging a war against the twin problems of poverty and unemployment in villages. This exhortation was prompted by his belief that in the past the development of science has largely benefited the urban areas and the large-scale industries. The villagers have not tasted the fruits of the scientific advances and technological research.

Mr Desai's views find support from the Janata Party's irrevocable commitment to accord top-most priority to the development of the village economy. Development means "conscientisation" of the villagers as well as a change in their values of life. This can be achieved effectively by the application of science and technology to the various rural activities. This would be quite consistent with the fundamental duty of every citizen as enshrined in the Indian Constitution, namely, "to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform".

growing in India in the last two decades at 9 per cent and has, as a result, reached the 2-million mark now. India occupies the third position in the world in so far as manpower personnel is concerned. The crucial question is whether scientists have adequate incentives to carry science to the villages. It is not so much the lack of incentives as the existence of disincentives that tend to discourage the scientists to explore and identify the areas for research and development in the areas. The village environment allegedly presents no intellectual challenges to the scientists and this acts as a great disincentive. Contrary to this is the view that the rural areas suffer from more challenging problems, which demand scientific treatment, than the urban areas do.

II. Problems: All this is not to suggest that the existence of problems and complexities should deter the scientists to widen the frontiers of science to encompass the rural areas also. It, in fact, underlines the need to identify the problems in order to launch a crusade to solve them.

(1) Personality development: The first and foremost challenge is that the rural development essentially involves a restructure of socio-cultural values so as to generate and assimilate the scientific temper and new technical ways. The rural development policies pursued so far have not

been alive to the rural culture. Man has not been the focus of development. The 'big push' policy of technological change contrived to increase production tended to prevent the emergence of a genuine indigenous scientific temper and appropriate technology for the rural milieu. Rather, it has given rise to rural-urban isolationism and stagnation of the villages. The technology for rural development has failed to percolate to the rural masses but it remains the preserve of the upper strata of the population. As a consequence, the internal genius for innovation has remained stunted and the external technological doses have remained alien—productive but not generative and useful but not usable by the masses. The challenging task before the scientists, therefore, is how to develop the human personality as a whole.

(2) Basic needs: The villages are starved of even the basic essentials of life—food, clothing, shelter, health and education. Any process of development that fails to fulfil these needs is a travesty of the idea development. It is true that our approach to rural development has so far focussed on material growth. But that is not enough, however indispensable it might otherwise be. If science and technology can help accelerate growth at low-cost, the villager will, conceivably, be able to look after his nobler

pursuits of life which make the development wholesome but now stand neglected.

(3) *Infra-structure*: One of the serious weaknesses of the villages is the poor infra-structure. Roads within a village or linking one village with another village or a town are conspicuous by their absence. Modern science and technology can play an important role in providing the necessary railroad links. Given efficient means of transport and communications, radios, TVs and other media, we can reasonably hope for greater enlightenment and enrichment of villages.

(4) *Population control*: The abysmal poverty and destitution in the villages is aggravated by the growing pressure of population. Whereas scientific and technical know-how has reduced the death-rate, its impact on birth-rate has been far from perceptible. The net result is rapid population growth. The baby boom in the coming decades can be prevented if medical and para-medical personnel and technocrats launch a crusade against it. This, if effectively done, would make a breakthrough in village poverty also.

(5) *Other hurdles*: The slowdown in taking science to rural India is not due to scientists alone. There are socio-economic, political and cultural factors equally to blame for this. Some have advocated cost-effectiveness criteria to assess the achievements of scientists in the spread of scientific knowledge but it must be realised that there is no correlation between investment and returns on it. In our country, the investment on research and development in science is so thinly spread that it is futile to expect any visible results. We should, therefore, not always aim at result-oriented investment in science.

III. Wider perspective: The scientific community has appa-

rently accorded adequate recognition of the value of work for promoting rural needs. The provision of kerosene oil to rural areas through refining crude, increasing agricultural output through modern farming techniques, power (electricity) supply for tube-well irrigation, television programmes to villagers with the help of satellites, prospecting of oil and minerals and their exploitation in remote areas, and industrialization of rural areas all these activities may well be regarded as manifestations of the application of science and technology. All talk of harnessing science and technology to rural areas as distinguished from urban areas would therefore be meaningless. It would be more appropriate to recognise its pervasiveness as it impinges on the entire society regardless of the region—rural or urban. It cannot however be denied that since the growth of science has, historically, been responsible for ushering in the industrial revolution, the scientific and technological advances would continue to play a major role in the industrial sector whether it is in the rural or urban area. If rural areas grow and develop into urban areas, is it not village upliftment? Caution may, however, be taken to minimise in the process of change the evils that accompany urbanisation.

IV. Technology model: There is a great divergence on the choice of technique. Should it be a western technology in order to achieve a high rate of return on investment on grandiose scheme? Should it be indigenous technology to suit the rural environment?

While the Congress government was not opposed to "appropriate technology" concept, preference was generally given to western-oriented variant. This was justified by the approach of gigantism in industrialization, urbanization and

even in agricultural development. Rapid growth and development was associated with 'big' schemes which called for huge investment and sophisticated technology. Heavy reliance was placed on big industries. That is not the case now. With the Janata government "small is beautiful", to quote Schumacher. For this, the Gandhian organic technology is considered more suitable, progressive, humane and synthetic. It aims at balanced growth of each element of the social system. In the village, each component social, economic, cultural and civic develops. What will become of the two million scientists whose expertise is mainly western? Will it be allowed to stagnate? If so, it would, indeed, be a colossal national waste. Obviously, the swing away from the western to the indigenous techniques should be very gradual and in keeping with the overall growth and development of the country's economy.

V. Conclusion: There are no two opinions that advances in science and technology must be transplanted from laboratories to rural regions. But if its progress in the past has been tardy, we must not find scapegoats in scientists. The retarding factors are inherent in the rural system itself. If the development mainly occurs in urban areas or the benefits of science and technology accrue to the upper strata of society, the rural areas also stand to gain. The two cannot and should not be isolated.

Evils

Never let a man imagine that he can pursue a good end by evil means, without sinning against his own soul. —The evil effect on himself is certain.

—SOUTHLY

Democracy World's costliest Luxury

Democracy has been defined as a form of Government in which the sovereign power rests in the hands of the people and is exercised by them either directly or indirectly through their representatives. Judging by the gradual disappearance of other forms of government—monarchy, aristocracy, theocracy, oligarchy, dictatorship (both civil and military)—in which there was a marked concentration of power together with a blatant denial of basic rights to the people—democracy has also proved to be the most durable form, the few cases of democracies having turned into authoritarianism notwithstanding.

The durability of democracy stems from the fact that in this system of government the citizen gets full opportunities for expressing his will, developing his personality and his faculties for both social and economic justice. Democracy, in fact, has rapidly become a culture in itself—the deliberate cultivation of an intellectual passion in people; it may be vague at times or even heedless and impracticable, but it continues to be the real thing to which humanity will, in all probability, stick, to the exclusion of other forms of government.

All these distinctive marks of democracy are, by and large, unquestionable and easily noticeable in most democracies of the world today, but there is one aspect on which attention is increasingly being focussed by statesmen, politicians and economists. This aspect is the mounting cost of maintaining a truly democratic framework, the

elaborate paraphernalia and the infrastructure all of which cost a large sum of money, making democracy the most expensive form of government, even though it all looks so simple—the people electing a few representatives in an election and these representatives, or rather the members of the majority party, electing a leader who, in turn, chooses a team of Ministers to carry on the day-to-day administration. The Ministers are regarded as public servants; many of them live simply and set examples of austerity, while others do not live so simply and their establishment costs a tidy sum of money to the tax payer. Even so the overall cost of a democratic system is believed to be relatively low since there is no king or autocratic ruler who can misappropriate a large slice of the country's revenues for leading a luxurious life, like the Shah of Iran whose personal fortune and wealth runs into billions of dollars and a part of it has been invested abroad in stocks and shares, landed property and industrial enterprises. The income is indeed fabulous and staggers the imagination. Examples of benevolent kingships in the modern world are rare indeed.

Come to think of it, is democracy really an economical device and does it leave much for the economic development of the people, especially in a poor country like India? A close analysis will show that it is money that lubricates the democratic set-up, every cog of it. Right from the process of elections at the lowest level to

elections at the higher level and the choice of representatives indirectly (that is, by the people's chosen representatives) to the decision making bodies, the amounts of money involved or change hands are colossal. Elections are not by votes, as theoreticians so fondly believe, but by the shuffling of notes and the juggling of coins.

A poor man, however high his sacrifices to the nation and however devoted he may be to Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy or to Acharya Vinoba Bhave's simplistic living, can seldom get elected to a legislature. Exceptions there have been, but these are so few that they merely help prove the rule. Let us examine the figures of election expenditure in India. The Representative of the People Act imposes a ceiling of Rs. 35,000 on election expenses by a candidate. But the actual expenditure of a candidate to a Parliamentary seat are about Rs. 2 to 3 lakhs, if not more. The constituencies in India are large in size, and lakhs of voters have to be approached and won over.

Besides, there is the heavy expenditure incurred by political parties for carrying on publicity for their candidates, but this huge expenditure is not taken into account while calculating the total sum spent by a candidate. According to a conservative estimate, in the Chikmagalur Parliamentary by-election, which Mrs Indira Gandhi won, the expenditure incurred by the Congress (I) alone is said to have exceeded Rs. 85 lakhs. The other parties, including the Janata Party,

must also have spent large sums, though, owing to the lack of resources, these parties naturally spent much less. The total expenditure incurred by the candidates, the political parties and independents, must have exceeded a crore of rupees. There is also the amount spent by the Election Commission and the Government on the police and other arrangements that have to be taken into account. The printing of ballot papers, voters' lists, the payments made to polling officers and their large staff. The total expenditure in a general election to Parliament must indeed be several crores. A reliable estimate puts it at Rs. 25 crores--a gigantic amount for a poor country. Then there are occasional elections to State Assemblies and these operations also cost a good deal of money. All business activity comes almost to a standstill during hectic election campaigns, and there is considerable diversion of money, time and energy to election drives, just as there is much diversion of time and energy to cricket Test matches when very little work is done in offices where both clerks and officers remain busy listening to commentaries. The total cost of elections and of the massive expenditure needed for maintaining the large legislatures including those of the States and the staff needed to attend to legislative work is hard to calculate, but it is undeniably tremendous.

There is another aspect of the problem which is no less important, and this concerns morals and ethics. It is scandalous that almost every member of Parliament or a State Assembly starts his or her legislative career by telling a blatant lie that he (or she) spent only Rs. 35,000 on the election (for a Parliamentary seat) and Rs. 12,000 or less for an Assembly seat. The actual expenditure is much more, but to avoid an

election petition and to remain within the law the new member deliberately makes an understatement. An M.P. stated recently that Rs. 35,000 was not sufficient even to cover the printing charges for posters, handbills and circulars, etc., required for his own election. So the prospective legislators have to rely on businessmen and industrialists for financial assistance, and these business magnates naturally expect a return in some form. Then starts a vicious circle of licences and permits which knows no end and encourages black market, deception and other unethical practices.

All this does not take into account the bribes often given to the voters. Gifts in the shape of household goods are given, and very often liquor has to be served to those whose votes are sought; in rural areas or in localities where the poor people or labourers live, sometimes cash is given to each voter, say Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 or even more, to ensure that votes are cast in a particular ballot-box. Votes are thus bought and sold. This means corruption and bribery and a ruining of the people's morals, thus inflicting near-permanent damage to the country's social fabric.

The Chief Election Commissioner, Mr Shakhder stated recently that many of the corrupt electoral practices arise because of the low limit on the election expenditure. The remedy he has suggested is that the Government should subsidise the election expenses of candidates of recognised parties. His suggestion is based on the fact that most of the election expenditure of the candidates is incurred on printing of posters and pamphlets, on the payments to election agents and in the distribution of polling slips to the voters, etc. The Government, he said, could pay these

expenses by asking the Election Commission to undertake the printing work and paying the election agents of the candidates. Again, if the accounts of each political party are audited and published, many of the malpractices that have crept into the electoral system would gradually be eliminated. The secret and mysterious manner in which deals are struck and black money changes hands during elections certainly needs to be stopped. The elections are expensive because several candidates are able to use black money. If this is stopped, the elections will not be so expensive, and if economy is also effected in the working of legislatures, democracy will not be so expensive.

It may be mentioned that at a meeting of the Central Cabinet in June, 1978, a consensus emerged to the effect that the election expenses officially fixed for Parliamentary and Assembly seats should be doubled, as recommended by the Tarkunde Committee on Electoral Reforms appointed by Mr Jayaprakash Narayan on behalf of the Citizens for Democracy. The Law Minister did not see any justification for candidates spending lavishly on huge banners and posters and on taxis running about with so many election agents and their assistants. There is certainly much waste during election time and the need for economy can hardly be over stressed. The basic aim should be to end the money power in elections.

Some of the proposals made by the Tarkunde Committee are designed to reduce the expenses on elections. The Janata Government is considering them, but no concrete steps have yet been taken in this direction. It is not contended that democracy should be abandoned and dictatorship established—f a r
(Contd. on page 582)

Futile Battle Against Poverty

These days most of the plans of the Government both at the Centre and in the States are supposed to fight poverty and relieve human distress. The Five-Year Plans are aimed at reducing poverty, especially in rural areas. Large grants are obtained from international agencies like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to provide more amenities to the people and thus reduce poverty and make life more tolerable for the masses. But what is the net impact? The proposition under discussion is: "There has been no let-up in rural poverty".

Mr A: I think all fair-minded people will agree that the colossal and traditional poverty, for which India is widely known, continues undiminished, despite all the plans, schemes and other projects to improve the lot of the people and raise their general standard of living. We should not be misled by the affluence and relative improvements in the general standard of living of a section of the masses but go deeper into the question. The best guide in this matter is the set of figures and statistics compiled by impartial agencies. The broad conclusion of various surveys is that the percentage of people living below the poverty line has not decreased and has even increased in certain segments of society, both rural and urban. According to the latest survey, nearly 72 per cent of the rural population of this country continues to live below the poverty line. Of the 390 million people living in the villages the working class is estimated at 199 million; worse, the number of the landless has been increasing as a result of the sale of small and economically unviable land holdings to well-off landlords, both medium and large, who have the means to buy additional lands through benami transactions, where necessary, to remain within the land ceiling laws. The principal asset in the countryside is

agricultural land, but the distribution of such land is, to say the least, most inequitable and unfair. About one-half or even more of these plots are uneconomic, or at best marginal holdings; these are so small and fragmentary that they occupy less than 10 per cent of the total agricultural area in the country. On the contrary, the bigger farms, which in number account for only 4 per cent of the holdings, cover about 30 per cent of the total agricultural land. When such a large number of land holdings are uneconomic—which means the owners or owner-cultivators continue to be poor and do not get enough income from the land to feed themselves and their families—what hope can there be for the petty kisans and their doomed families. The economic compulsions make it necessary for the poor people to mortgage 75 to 80 per cent of their assets; in fact, it has been found that 92 per cent of the assets of farm labourers are mortgaged. Moreover, according to an estimate, the poorest 10 per cent of rural households own less than one per cent of the assets, while the richest 10 per cent own over 50 per cent of the assets. These are not obsolete figures but were presented at a meeting of the Central Standing Committee on Rural Labour in Delhi in January, 1979. It is obvious, therefore, that intense poverty has

become a permanent feature of this country and there has been no improvement in the situation since Independence.

Mr B: My friend, Mr A, seems to be unduly pessimistic. Poverty in a country of India's size—almost a continent with above 65 crore people—is such a big problem covering so many millions that not to speak of any single Government even the pooled efforts of international agencies cannot solve it in a short period. But at the same time everyone can see that during the past 30 years or so there has been a distinct improvement in the standard of living of the masses. They are better fed, better clothed and better housed; their children go to school, and a few pockets of stark poverty apart, most of the villagers do not wear rags or tattered clothes any more; note the large number of people including labourers and cobblers who carry transistors and use bicycles; note the better and healthier look on their faces; mark the better dress and make-up of the rural women, the better utensils, the improved modes of cooking and the improved surroundings almost everywhere. Who can deny that a dent has indeed been made into the traditional poverty and that the process of economic recovery at the grassroots has started? We should not be misled by the

pathetic sight of poor people at certain places; of course the poor are still there because, as I have already argued, poverty cannot be wished away by a magic wand. The age-old phenomenon has deep roots, but things have started improving. No longer is a farm labourer satisfied with petty wages and a few crumbs of food or what are called "left-overs". He has to be paid well and fed well; he often dictates his terms. Farm wages have increased three or four times during the past decade or so. Similarly, rural folk go to the towns to get employment in factories and other establishments or in construction and other work; they send money home to supplement their family's earnings from land. No longer are villagers simpletons or senseless people; they are watchful and conscious of the unjust set-up. To say that they are still steeped in poverty or that they are getting poorer day by day is, I am afraid, a travesty of truth and a glaring distortion. We should not ignore realities; statistics are often misleading.

Mr C: I would rather agree with the contentions made by my friend, Mr A. According to the data compiled by the Gandhi Peace Foundation, there are still 2.8 million bonded labourers who are virtually slaves in the country even today, as their ancestors were, despite all the loud talk of freeing them from the strong grip of their "owners". There is also talk of the Minimum Wages Act, but does any one bother about strict enforcement of the Act? This and other laws exist merely on paper. Even the Planning Commission admitted late in November, 1978, that the economic condition of the masses had deteriorated despite the series of development plans since 1950. The percentages of people living below the poverty line, even according to official figures are

47.65 in rural areas and 40.71 in urban areas. The average norm of *per capita* monthly consumption expenditure works out to be 46.33 which indicates an increase in the number of people below the floor, as compared to estimates made about a decade ago. In 10 years more than 50 million people have been added to the vast number of people living in absolute poverty, consuming less than 2,400 calories a day in rural areas and 2,100 calories in towns. The Janata Government announced soon after assuming office that poverty would be eliminated within 10 years, but so far no impact has been made and the poor continue to be in as pitiable a plight as before. I may also add that last October Mr B.M. Birla, one of the country's leading industrialists, warned that if things did not change for the better, India would perhaps become the poorest country in the world. Foodgrains were available and there are record surpluses in Government godowns but the purchasing capacity is not there with millions of people. Again, a report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development published in August, 1978, disclosed that the poor have become poorer in certain countries, including India. The total number of the poor "in absolute poverty" in the underdeveloped world is put at 800 million. In such a context, all the claims about the results of development are totally misleading.

Mr D: I think we should also consider two additional factors before we pass judgement on the question whether poverty is increasing or decreasing. One, the increase in the percentage of the really poor living below the "floor" also depends on the population growth rate, and this rate has not been checked; in fact, the let-up in the family planning programme after the end of the

Emergency has resulted in what may be called reversal of the gear in this regard. Secondly, the Janata Government is now tackling the huge task in the right way by concentrating on schemes to provide more employment to the jobless millions. That is regarded as one major way for "Gharibi Hatao". The Government hopes to end unemployment in 10 years; this may not be possible, but a significant dent into the problem is expected to be made, and when this comes about there is likely to be a significant improvement in the plight of the poor because employment will mean more and regular income to the countless afflicted families. In certain States the Antyodaya programme has been launched with the same end in view—providing relief to the poorest families through employment, housing and other basic amenities. The scheme for giving doles and cash assistance to the jobless is only a temporary remedy, but the creation of more job opportunities is likely to provide a more durable panacea. The concentration of economic resources and Budget allocations in the rural areas is designed to promote the same objective; because stark poverty is found among the masses. There are slums in towns too, but the percentage of really poor people is much higher in the countryside. The numerous schemes to start small-scale industries in the rural areas will also help in ensuring economic relief to poor people by turning them into wage earners. The massive rural job creation programme is a commendable project; such programmes, if earnestly implemented, can certainly resolve the massive problem of poverty. But this will take time; the problem is undoubtedly urgent, but it is futile to expect a solution or even a radical transformation in the time-span of one five-year or even a
(Contd. on page 584)

The Magic of Courage

—Faint heart never won a fair lady—

Courage and success go hand in hand. If you want to succeed in life you need courage. The cowards never start; the timid die along the way or fall out—only the men of true courage arrive. Courage is not so much the absence of fear as the mastery of it. As Bertrand Russell puts it, "It is fear that holds men back—fear lest they should prove less worthy of respect than they have supposed themselves to be." In his Nobel Prize acceptance speech (December 1950) William Faulkner said, "The basest of all things is to be afraid." To be afraid is to give hostages to fortune; it is to queer the pitch for yourself.

The Magic of Courage

Courage has a magic quality. With it difficulties can be manfully combated, misfortunes bravely sustained, poverty nobly supported, frustrations boldly encountered. As Dr S.N. Bremner puts it, "It takes from calamity its dejecting quality, and enables the soul to possess itself under every vicissitude. It rescues the unhappy from degradation and the feeble from contempt." It is an infallible talisman. It is a sure mascot for attracting luck.

Courage distinguishes a man from a mouse. With man goes manliness and the test of manliness and its supreme virtue its courage. Courage is not only the essential ingredient of success; it is "m a n" himself. "Courage", says Andre Malraux, "is no more and no less than the man himself."

Courage to venture

You need courage to venture and to keep going ahead when people oppose you and tell you that you are all wrong. Don't let wet-blankets and Doubting Thomases to throw cold water on your plans or shake your resolution to attain your goals.

You need courage to go back to your plans again and again, when most men would give up and accept defeat. The word defeat is not found in the dictionary of the truly courageous man. From the point of view of individual psychology, defeat is inadmissible. Alfred Adler, the Father of Individual Psychology, observes: "Life (and all psychological expressions as part of life) moves ever towards overcoming, towards perfection, towards superiority, towards success. You cannot train or condition a living being for defeat." His biographer H. Orgler tells us that "Courage was his watchword and difficulties were to be faced as spurs to increased effort to reach the goal."

You must learn to pocket disappointments when they come and learn not to be bowled out by them. You must pick yourself upright and carry on. You must be like the inventor who each time his machine develops a 'bug' and fails to work, re-designs the defective part that was causing the trouble.

Disappointments are meant to rouse not to discourage. You should be thankful if you have a

job a little tougher than you like.

Courage to do what you feel right

Confucius said, "To know what is right and not to do it is the worst cowardice." To win success, you need to cultivate courage to do what you feel is right without fearing what Mrs Grundy might say. This means that you have the courage of your convictions and can dare to say, "This is what I think and believe" and in Martin Luther's words, "Here I stand, I can do no other."

Refuse to be anybody but yourself; follow the bent of your own mind, no matter what the world says. Do not be afraid of blazing a new trail, of taking initiatives and abandoning beaten tracks.

You also need courage to choose a commitment and to act upon it whatever the odds. As Sartre has it, "Each and every individual must commit himself and act upon his commitment. Man cannot know what is to be; he only knows what is in his power to make things so. Beyond that he can count on nothing."

Belief in life

You need courage to believe in life no matter what the cynics, sceptics and nihilists say. The famous American psychologist, William James said, "These, then are my last words to you: be not afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living and your belief will help create the fact." At the end of his third volume of "Autobiography"

(1969) Russell dwells upon the vision—both personal and social—which he pursued all his life and ends up saying, “These things I believe, and the world, for all its horrors, has left me unshaken.” Rutherford, the great physicist of the century, the man who split the atom, considered life as something he could not be sufficiently grateful for, a tremendous experience not to be spoiled in any way. He said, “It is a great thing, life. I wouldn’t have missed it for anything. It needs courage to live up, to take the maximum out of life; but then it is the essential qualification for life—to believe that life has meaning to the last breath.”

Power of the human will

You need courage to believe in the power of human will. People who fail do not lack strength; they lack will. Some folk’s will-power becomes stagnant from lack of exercise. Don’t be bogged in the age-old controversy of free-will versus determinism. With courage, exercise your will-power in the pursuit of your aims and you are bound to succeed. Will-power can move mountains; surmount all obstacles in the way of your destination and enable you to achieve laurels.

With will, goes wish. These are inter-related. “Will moves through desire”, said Aristotle. Dr Rollo May explains the psychological meanings of will and wish and their inter-relation. His definitions of the terms are: “Will is the capacity to organize one’s self so that movement in a certain direction or toward a certain goal may take place. Wish is the imaginative playing with the possibility of some act.” On the dialectic of the inter-relation of ‘will’ and ‘wish’ he observes, ‘Will’ and ‘Wish’ may be seen as operating in polarity. ‘Will’ requires self-consciousness; ‘Wish’ does not. ‘Will’ implies some possibility of

either/or choice, ‘Wish’ does not. ‘Wish’ gives the warmth, the content, the imagination, the child’s play, the freshness and richness to ‘Will’. ‘Will’ gives the self-direction, the maturity to ‘Wish’. ‘Will’ protects, ‘Wish’ permits it to continue without running risks which are too great. But without ‘Wish’, ‘Will’ loses its life-blood, its viability and tends to expire in self-contradiction.”

The sort of courage we are speaking about needs both wish-bone and back-bone, the decision and intention to set up a definite objective for oneself and the self-conscious activity towards the determined objective. “If you have only ‘Will’ and no ‘Wish’ you have the dried up Victorian neopuritan man. If you have only ‘Wish’ and no ‘Will’ you have the driven, unfree, infantile person who, as an adult remaining an infant, may become the robot man.” Wishes alone are futile; if wishes were horses, beggars would ride!

Courage to be yourself

You must have the courage to be yourself, and not the shadow, carbon-copy or the echo of another. In the context of personality development this means ‘fidelity to the law of one’s being’, “fidelity signifying trust, trustful loyalty.” To the extent that a man is true to the law of his being, he succeeds in the realization of his life’s meaning.

Courage to be honest

You need the courage to be honest, the courage to resist temptation. Honesty and honour are derived from the same Latin word *Honestus* (honos, honour). No man can be just a little crooked. There is no such thing as a no-man’s land between honesty and dishonesty. A client went to his attorney and said, “I am going into a business deal with a man I do

not trust. I want to you to frame an air-tight contract which he cannot break and which will protect me from any sort of mischief which he may have in his mind.”

“Listen my friend”, said the attorney, “There is no group of words in the English language which will take the place of plain honesty between men or which will protect either of you if you plan to deceive each other.”

Honesty in personality is something like the main-spring in a watch. There is no substitute for it.

Courage to be patient

Patience has been called the “courage of virtue”. It is also the art of hoping. Patience is one of the most outstanding trait of a magnetic, bold and autonomous personality. It is an essential means of successful achievement. History and biography abound with examples of signal patience displayed by great men under the most trying circumstances. Says a psychologist, “He that has patience can have what he wills. There is no road too long to the man who advances deliberately and without undue haste. There are no honours too distant for the man who prepares himself for them with patience.”

In short courage is a many-faceted gem. Wear it as your lucky stone as a magnet for success. Remember—*Faint heart never won fair lady.*

Topical Essay

(Contd. from page 578)

from it. The plea is to make the democratic set up more economical and less wasteful by cutting out ostentation and eliminating the chances of using black money which makes elections needlessly expensive and hinders the chances of candidates having limited means.

**Big Business Houses' Growth
Indian Banking
Get a Tax Injection ?**

Big Business Houses' Growth

Q. What economic policy conclusion do you draw from the big business houses' growth in terms of assets, profits and turnover ?

Ans. The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act (MRTPA) defines a big industrial house as one which by itself or together with inter-connected undertakings has a total (book value) assets of Rs. 20 crore or more and is registered under Section 26 of the Act. (Suggestions have been made that the threshold value assets be revised upward taking into consideration the rate of inflation and the current replacement cost of the fixed assets.)

The data recently released by the department of company affairs reveal the following facts about assets, profits and turnover:

1. **Assets:** The assets of the 25 large industrial houses (LIHs) increased by 61 per cent during 1972-76 while those of the private sector as a whole by 46 per cent and of the public sector by 133 per cent. The growth of the public sector was nearly three times that of the private sector and more than twice that of the LIHs during the four-year period. The LIHs account for 31 per cent of the total assets of the private sector and 18 per cent of both the private and public sectors. Compared with 1963, the share of LIHs in assets has been declin-

ing. A large part of the big houses is concentrated in basic and capital good industries and in the key sectors of the consumer goods like cement, automobiles, scooters etc.

2. **Profits:** The LIHs earned 69 per cent profits before tax (PBT) as against 84 per cent of the private sector. The total profits as well as profitability of the public sector was "impressive" relative to LIHs, though lower than those of the private sector as a whole.

3. **Turnover:** The share of the public sector in the turnover registered an increase of 142 per cent; of the private sector 51 per cent and of the LIHs 83 per cent.

Economic conclusions: (a) The public sector growth is faster in building assets. This may be attributed to the huge investment dose of the governments and the nationalisation of some of the industries in the private sector. As the public sector investment is increased in the current plan period, the growth rate will escalate ever more. If the private sector (including LIHs) lags behind, it will fail to "build the sinews of the economy" in response to the government exhortations.

(b) The LIHs have developed sophisticated technology by contributing risk capital in the "core" sector industries. They have established a symbiotic relationship which exists between basic, capital and consumer

goods industries and between the large, medium and small enterprises in each of them.

(c) With the professionalisation of management and the divorce of ownership from the management, indigenous Indian capitalism has come of age. The growth and development of LIHs should not be condemned or slowed down if the capitalistic structure of the economy is not to be changed drastically.

(d) The public sector has overcome the teething troubles. As it gains commanding heights, the industrial giant houses would cease to dominate the economy as in the past.

In these circumstances, the views of some is that the scope for the big business houses to concentrate economic power in their hands is very limited. The private sector provides healthy competition for the public sector and their co-existence is a good augury for the growth of the economy.

Indian Banking

Q. Bring out some prominent achievements of Indian banking since the nationalisation in 1969.

Ans. According to Dr K.S. Krishnaswamy, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India, the most obvious achievement of the Indian banking since the take-over of the 14 major banks in 1969 has been the rapid expansion of banking throughout the

country. This and other outstanding performances are as follows:

1. **Spatial expansion:** The total number of branches of commercial banks has stepped up three and a half times from around 8,300 in June 1969 to nearly 28,500 in December 1978.

In this process, two changes are noteworthy: first, the emphasis has been on opening branches of commercial banks in "deficit districts", rural and semi-urban areas; secondly, the branch expansion in the metropolitan cities has been on a lower priority. Nearly 54 per cent of the 19,000 additional bank branches opened were in unbanked centres. The regional imbalances in providing banking facilities have thus been reduced. This means a qualitative change in banking. Banking is no longer the preserve of the urban elite. The population per bank has also reduced.

2. **Deposits:** Consistent with the primary functions of commercial banks the volume and character of deposits have undergone a change. The deposits have increased from Rs. 4,650 crore in June 1969 to over Rs. 25,000 crore by mid-December, 1978 or nearly six-fold. The term-deposits form a considerable proportion of the total deposits.

Rural and semi-urban deposits have increased from 22 to 32 per cent of the total with a corresponding decline in the proportion of urban and metropolitan deposits.

3. **Advances:** Bank advances have risen from about Rs. 3,600 crore to over Rs. 16,000 crore during the four-year period. This means over four-fold rise. A sizable amount of this has been borrowed by the villagers and priority sector: small entrepreneurs, taxi-operators, farmers, village artisans etc.

4. **Credit planning:** Not

only have the banks encouraged saving habits and increased "transferable" savings of the villagers but have also promoted credit-expansion as instruments of development and planning. Credit is recognised, as never before, an important input in the form of working capital. By extending institutional credit to village artisans and craftsmen, for viable rural projects and agriculture, the network of rural banks are bound to play a laudable role in employment generation. During the current plan period, the banks are likely to employ about 2.3 lakh persons direct and create additional jobs for 150 lakh persons through their lending operations during 1978-83. More than half of the labour force emerging during this period is estimated to be absorbed through the banking system.

In nutshell, the banks are serving as potent instruments of socio-economic transformation of India. Dr Krishnaswamy is sceptical whether a more efficient banking service will be available in the future.

Get a Tax Injection ?

Q. The brunt of resource mobilisation has to fall on additional taxation, says *Economic Survey*, 1978-79. Comment.

Ans. There is no getting away from the fact that in order to achieve the twin objectives of eradication of poverty and unemployment, a massive outlay of the order of Rs. 69,380 crore in the public sector during the plan, 1978-83, is called for. The second year, 1979-80, of the plan would require a substantial step-up in developmental outlay above the level of Rs. 11,650 crore in 1978-79. According to the pre-budget survey, 1978-79, the internal resources will be strained very much to augment the resources. The *Survey* feels that the brunt of this will fall on the tax payer who will be required

to bear a heavier burden. Is this inevitable? Is this the correct prescription?

The inevitability of increased tax rests on the absence of other potential sources for plan finances. The near-price stability for two years in a row, adequate foodgrains output, 20-million ton of buffer stocks of foodgrains and foreign exchange reserve have imparted a considerable resilience to the economy for more investment. Additional resources may be mopped up from increased customs revenues arising from higher imports; corporate taxes and excise duties may yield more due to higher industrial output and more savings are available than are actually invested. Accordingly, there is no justification to go in for additional taxes. The other view is that if the tax net is extended to bring within its coverage the rural rich, a better balance in tax contribution may be achieved. It is interesting to note that the share markets do not feel unduly disturbed by the nightmare of additional taxation raised by the *Economic Survey*. Presumably, the marketmen believe the corporate sector will be spared in the fiscal policy. It is equally doubtful whether the new Finance Minister, Mr Charan Singh, known for his rural bias, will bring the hornet's nest around him by taxing the big landlords.

Debate; Discussion

(Contd. from page 580)

10-year project. The changeover will come surely, but in due course. The important thing is to concentrate on this problem and not to allow the nation's energies to be diverted to unnecessary schemes, such as nuclear research or the purchase of more aircraft from abroad or manufacture more motor cars, TV sets and other luxury goods. Concentration on the basic necessities is needed and a lesson should be learnt from Russia and China.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade examinations. Thoughts of certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.

—Kennedy (1961)

It was in 1762 that Rousseau declared "Man is born free and everywhere he is in chains". The efforts of mankind have been directed towards the achievement of freedom. Some measure of success is there and parliamentary democracy has been established on a major portion of the globe. But the poor are still with us and their number is even on the increase. In a country like India which claims to be the largest democracy in the world, no less than 60% persons live below the poverty line. There must be something wrong with a freedom in which crores are grovelling in poverty while a few thousand are rolling in luxury. This is a state of inequilibrium and in the very nature of things must topple down. Unless the struggling masses who constitute the overwhelming majority are guaranteed a living wage, they will throw democracy overboard. They had believed in democracy as a panacea, they had given their emotion to it but now this looked-for panacea has failed them. Democracy is the rule of majority and it is plain logic that the poor being in overwhelming majority must rule; unless in the meanwhile the rich listen to Gandhiji and begin to consider themselves as trustees of their wealth for the benefit of the poor.

The price we have to pay for money is paid in liberty.

—R.L. Stevenson

A story is told about an ascetic who lived far from the madding crowd eating wild roots and drinking spring water. A rich man passing that way gave him a brass utensil to keep water in reserve. That night the ascetic could not sleep for fear lest the utensil should be stolen. Next day the first thing the ascetic did was to throw away the utensil. He had bargained his liberty, his peace, his sleep for it. The mendicant goes about the streets and when the round is over, has his frugal fare and goes to sleep without a thought for the morrow. Let but the money arrive and his wants multiply. He looks around and finds his neighbours leading luxurious lives. He also must have these luxuries. That way begins his worries, his loss of liberty, of peace of mind, of contentment. In flows money and out flows liberty. He is now a slave to material possessions. His quest is never-ending but his discontent is ever increasing. And thereby hangs a tale, till death comes to deliver him of this weariness of body and agony of spirit. What doth it profit a man if he gains the whole world but loses his own soul.

History in the making is always censured.

Events that have opened up new chapters in the annals of

mankind have invited derision and hostility. Comfortably snuggled as men are in their traditional beliefs and ideas they oppose the new winds of change. When Columbus returned to Spain after making the historic voyage resulting in the discovery of America, the countries of Spain under-rated his discovery and even ridiculed him. The man who had widened horizons was subjected to censure and ignominy and he died a penniless man. When Copernicus who added new dimensions to astronomy by declaring that the earth moves round the sun there was a furore in the Roman Catholic Church and the Spanish Inquisition hauled him up who was a damned criminal. Who could foresee at the time that this Copernicus had ushered in a new epoch, the epoch which made man the centre of the Universe and paved the way for modern civilization? Darwin who propounded the theory of Evolution was reviled and condemned. In earlier centuries he might have been burnt at the stake. However the man remained cool as cucumber, smiling at the fulminations of Churchmen. The world was soon to accept what he had said. Mankind has rarely accepted its great thinkers or prophets. It has humiliated them, stoned them, poisoned them or crucified them. But these thinkers had added unforgettable chapters to the history of mankind.

(Contd. on page 590)

Argumentative Questions **ON** **CURRENT PROBLEMS**

- **White-collar Jobs**
- **Crisis of Capitalism**
- **Equality of Men and Women**
- **Cynicism is the way of Defeatists and Escapists**
- **Persuading to your view-point**

White-collar Jobs

Q. "The Government of India is rightly called the largest creator of unproductive white-collar jobs in the world. It has turned a great nation into a clerical department of the administration." Do you agree? Give reasons.

Ans. Although there is an element of exaggeration in this view obviously to stress the point, the charge against the Government of India is, by and large, well-founded. The expansion of clerical and other white-collar jobs in India has indeed been phenomenal. The massive establishment of the Central Government goes on expanding, Parkinson's Law being in operation here with a vengeance. While the number of employees has increased rapidly, the total output of work is decreasing, each government employee doing less and less. Parkinson's Law states: "Work expands to fill the time available for its completion and subordinates multiply at a fixed rate, regardless of the amount of work produced". The professor made it clear in Bombay some time ago that employing more people invariably led to inefficiency to a larger number of people. This is precisely what

has happened in India. Unproductive white-collar jobs are multiplying by the million, but the average output is decreasing. Every other man is a frustrated clerk rendered unfit for constructive work.

In continuing the recruitment of clerks by the million from year to year, the Government of India may be said to have maintained the tradition set by the British in the early decades of the East India Company's rule. As Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said, the British people filled all the high offices but obviously they could not fill the smaller posts and the clerkships. A large number of clerks were, however, urgently wanted, and it was to produce clerks that schools and colleges were first established in this country by the British. This continued to be the main purpose of education in India for a long time. Most of the products of schools and colleges especially the Arts colleges, were capable only of functioning as clerks. Bengal took the lead in this new English education and, therefore, the early supply of clerks was very largely Bengali. With a remarkable foresight, Pandit Nehru warned that the idea of a clerical job being a better one than others would ultimately

degrade the whole nation. Unfortunately, his warning has been largely ignored. The products of the institutions established by the Indian Government even after Independence are mostly unfit for technical assignments and are capable of only wielding the pen, and even that mechanically without initiative, without exercising a sense of responsibility and without making any effort to do something constructive. The vast army of indifferent pen-pushers, especially in New Delhi, is, by and large, a burden on the nation. Their net output is negligible in the context of the gigantic constructive tasks waiting to be accomplished.

Pandit Nehru also had the right vision in respect of role of the bureaucracy in general. An authoritarian system of government, according to him, must encourage a psychology of subservience and try to limit the mental outlook and horizon of the people. It must crush much that is finest in youth enterprise, the spirit of adventure, originality and 'pep'; instead it must encourage sneakiness, rigid conformity and a desire to cringe and please the bosses. Such a faulty system cannot be expected to bring out, or encourage, the spirit of ren-

dering genuine service to the nation and inculcate the right devotion to public service or to socialist ideals.

It cannot be denied that the majority of petty officials in this country's countless government departments, notably the revenue-earning ones, are by no means honest or sincere. They are mere time-servers, with their eyes constantly on the clock and with their attention diverted most of the time to extraneous activities. It is not surprising that in the present basically ill-devised system, flattery, sycophancy and nepotism flourish. The spy, the informer and the tale-carrier manage to be successful and even prosperous; they do hardly any work themselves and for their kith and kin. Indiscipline consequently spreads and honest performance of duty is very much at a discount.

India is the world's most populous democracy, and it is believed to have the largest number of white-collar workers of various categories, a large number of them being superfluous. Jobs were created for them by vested interests which were out to exercise political patronage to the nth degree. The entire administrative machinery has indeed become so cumbersome that discipline and solid works have become almost impossible. The number of "white elephants" in the sense of unwieldy and generally unprofitable establishments in India must indeed be the largest in the world. Slimming and streamlining would make the Indian administrative set-up healthy and effective, but with so many pressures and counter-pressures at work this seems to have become impossible.

Some examples may be quoted to illustrate the manner of functioning of the elephantine Indian bureaucracy whose forts are red-tape and passing the

buck. According to the notorious "Conveyor system", a matter of public importance, after having been dealt with by the Section Officer, Under-Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Joint Secretary, Additional Secretary and Secretary, comes back after several weeks of file-passing and file-noting to the Section Officer for recommendations and drafting of final orders. This practice has become so safely entrenched that efforts to mend it have failed.

The various committees and commissions appointed to streamline the Indian administration submitted reports, but their recommendations were pigeon-holed on one pretext or other because implementation would have meant retrenchment of superfluous hands—a contingency which was unwelcome to most officers and clerks. The uncontrollable expansion in the government staff has inevitably led to huge public expenditure. To meet this mounting expenditure, more and more taxes have to be levied every year. The system has also bred corruption and graft, not to mention the growing inefficiency. These three consequences have in turn, transformed even innocent recruits to pastmasters in the art of flattery and of getting things out of turn while others wait.

Apart from political nepotism which results in more and more recruitment of staff, the various complicated taxes and other measures which the Government decides to enforce also needlessly lead to staff expansion. Indeed, it is scandalous that this country's human resources are wasted in futile and avoidable paper work devoted largely to trivialities, such as filling of various types of forms, often in triplicate—purely clerical work required from all of us. No consideration is given to the fact that the best use should be made of the people's

time. In every progressive country, such as the U.S.A. and Britain, all-out efforts are made to save time, for time is much more than money. It cannot be minted, as currency notes can be. But in India the waste of time in useless pursuits is colossal. This unpardonable waste of the nation's most precious asset has prompted Mr Palkhivala to suggest that every year the Central Government should present a statement, along with the budget, showing how many millions of man-hours will be unproductively used up as a result of the taxation proposals and other formalities, many of which can be easily dispensed with.

Crisis of Capitalism

Q. "Capitalism is in the throes of the severest crisis it has ever faced". Give reasons for and against this view.

Ans. Capitalism implies the possession in private hands of capital or funds used in the production of goods and services. It also implies free enterprise and absence of State control on the economy. There is also the unsavoury insinuation that under this system persons who do not work deprive others who actually work of the fruits of their labour, thus becoming no better than social parasites. The system is blamed for the prevalence of colossal poverty in most parts of the world and dazzling prosperity in a few pockets.

There is no doubt that capitalism is now in a state of deep crisis. It is socialism that is the creed of the 20th century, the shade varying from country to country. The extremes are represented by the Communist giants—the Soviet Union and China. The flourishing capitalist bloc is represented by the U.S.A., Britain, West Germany, France and Japan. But through-

out the world there are many shades of socialism.

Arguments for the view that Capitalism is in crisis

1. Capitalism implies faulty and uneven distribution of the world's wealth and its concentration in a few hands. In almost all countries today concentration of wealth is being attacked and measures are being adopted to eliminate such concentration as far as possible.

2. Capitalism is being disfavoured because it involves recurrence of crises, the world being led from one crisis to another with short period of respite. The usual features of such seemingly irremediable crises are: commercial chaos, runaway inflation, mounting unemployment, labour indiscipline and a steep fall in moral values. All-out efforts are being planned even in capitalist regions to eliminate these evils. Economic experts have warned that unless timely steps are taken, there might be a major disaster before the end of the 20th century.

3. As the capitalist system becomes more unstable, the social status of the working classes declines. The cycle of crises leads, in due course, to fall in the production of mass-consumption goods and then to lesser availability of such goods per head of the population. The drop in total production and the consequential rise in prices and in the general cost of living are phenomena which are being fought by every democratic government because they intensify the people's distress and unrest. Moreover, capitalism leads to glaring economic disparities, which are no longer looked upon with equanimity by the vast millions in various countries.

Arguments against the view

1. Even while all the talk of capitalism being an obsolete dogma goes on, most of the

progressive and flourishing countries remain basically capitalist. They have not lost faith in capitalism as such and are merely out to eliminate the evils and malpractices it brings. This is the essence of the American, West Germany and Japanese policies. These countries continue to believe that the basic factor in their success even in the midst of socialistic winds blowing all round is capitalism.

2. Until recently the belief that poverty and prosperity are indivisible and must be widely shared held ground all over the globe. But now the affluent nations are again harping on their common interests and have virtually abandoned altruistic policies. The clash of interests between the affluent nations and the rest of the world becomes apparent at every international conference. While the poor socialist nations of the world, especially of the Third and the Fourth Worlds, demand a greater share of the global trade and industry, the capitalist countries appear determined to stick to their prosperity.

3. The fight between the two rival forces—capitalism and socialism—goes on and will perhaps never end. There can be no permanent compromise between the two, although there have been, and there probably will be, in future, temporary adjustment between the two. The conflict between the systems is actually caused by the complete economic upsets and the increasing misery all over the world. Until some equilibrium is reached, the tussle will continue. Capitalist countries continue to be highly prosperous; in fact, far more prosperous than the socialist countries. It is, therefore, incorrect to say that capitalism is in the throes of a crippling crisis and that it has reached the end of the road.

Equality of Men and Women

Q. The working women's equality with men is still far off. Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your view.

Ans. As in numerous other spheres of activity, here is all the difference in the world between the theory and practice of equality of men and women. Article 39 of Part IV of the Indian Constitution enumerated the Directive Principles of State Policy requires the State to secure equally to men and women the right to adequate means of livelihood. Article 14 guarantees every one equality before the law. The Fundamental Rights also prohibit discrimination on grounds of sex or religion, as well as equality of opportunity in matters of public employment. And yet the day when men and women will be treated on an absolutely equal footing in respect of work and wages is truly far off. To some extent, such inequality is natural because there is a difference in the type and quantum of work that women generally can do. Of course, there are Amazons and heavy women who have invaded some of the fields so far monopolised by men, such as fighting in war, wrestling, shooting and hunting. But the number of women who can claim physical equality with men is very limited. The fact remains that the Constitutional guarantees notwithstanding, women are nowhere near men in public employment.

Although equal rights for men and women, are enshrined in the Constitution, society is ignoring these guarantees. A major handicap is the social attitude towards women. The Government cannot single-handedly change such entrenched attitudes and society in general must share the responsibility but at the same time it would be true to say that the onus of implementing the laws

fall on the Government. Far from ensuring to women the traditional channels of employment, the Government has not been able to prevent even men's inroads into the spheres of work until recently reserved for women. This has been a dismal sequel to the modernisation of traditional profession, craft and trades. New methods and production patterns have deprived women of their traditional lines of employment without providing for them alternative openings.

Cynicism is the way of Defeatists and Escapists

Q. Give three reasons for and three against the following statement:

"Cynicism is the way of defeatists and escapists."

Reasons For

1. A cynic is a person who is surly and disinclined to recognise goodness or selflessness. He is a snarler and takes a pessimistic view of human motives and actions. Cynicism is surliness, and indicates contempt for and suspicion of, human nature. Only those who are defeatists take a gloomy view of everything.

2. Cynics are only happy in making the world as barren for others as they have made it for themselves.

3. Only a person who is himself full of deficiencies and is almost a knave will say that there is no such thing as an honest, sincere and selfless person in this world. To escape from their moods of intense depression and gloom, they condemn everyone else and think there is nothing good or commendable anywhere. His own vision is faulty, jaundiced and full of prejudice.

Reasons Against

1. A cynic after all, is a realist who sees things as they

actually are, and not as they ought to be. He sees things with extra-sharp probing eyes and manages to spot weaknesses which would escape the notice of casual and indifferent observers.

2. Many cynics are merely contemptuous of ease, luxury and wealth. They would like people to lead simple, austere lives, avoid waste and ostentation for the country's sake. No one can describe them as selfish or self-seekers, as countless non-cynics undeniably are.

3. While foolish and ill-informed criticism is to be deprecated and deserves to be dismissed, well-meant criticism should be taken note of. Most cynics have a point to make and they help to focus attention on our glaring weaknesses which need to be redressed in the interest of the community. Judged from this angle, all critics including cynics, have a socially useful function to perform.

Persuading to your view-point

Q. You are sent to a backward village to persuade the villagers to save and put their savings in a bank. What line will you take to the following responses?

(a) We do not save. We have not enough to eat.

(b) If we saved we would rather buy gold and keep it. We will know what we have.

(c) What was good enough for my forefathers is good enough for me. No banking, thank you.

(d) Banks are urban institutions. We are illiterate and may be cheated.

(e) My savings are my business. Others like you or Government have nothing to do with it.

Ans. (a) The villager who says "we do not save.....we have not enough to eat" cer-

tainly has a point, and it would perhaps be tactful to leave him alone for some time. But it would apply only to the people who are really so poor that they are semi-naked and cannot make both ends meet. Any talk of savings might not be relished by such groups. They would deeply appreciate sympathy rather than exhortations to develop the banking habit. Nevertheless, even they might gradually be convinced about the utility of banks, about the loans and credit they provide to the lowest categories of people so as to fulfil the banks' social objectives, and about the public good the banks and bankers do. Poor people also benefit from the projects which the banks help to finance. Many of these projects raise the earning capacity of people. Once the poor people realise the benefits of having some savings somehow and putting them in banks, they would not need much persuasion to adopt this habit when in course of time their economic position improves and they are in a position to put something aside for the rainy day.

(b) Those who contend that if they have the capacity to save, they would rather buy gold and keep it with the assurance that they would know what they have, should be made familiar with the numerous benefits of banks, especially the steady growth of their savings with the accrual of interest (with special emphasis on the enhanced rates of interest now paid by the banks), the safety of their money, the facility of withdrawal to meet exigencies, the economic development which is promoted through fruitful use of public money in banks, the loan and credit facilities, etc. The disadvantages of locking up money in gold and ornaments should also be brought home to them. As for the argument that "we will know what we have", it is true that the steady increase in

the price of gold over the past many decades on the one hand, and the erosion in the value of the rupee and in the net worth of savings on the other, are factors which discourage many people with putting money in banks. But the interest rates paid by the banks partly made up for the loss in the value of money through inflation. Besides, gold can be easily stolen from private residences and thefts of gold or ornaments are almost impossible to trace. Public money in banks, on the other hand, is quite safe. Again, possession of gold by an individual serves no national purpose; it does not help finance public welfare projects. Countless people who have hoarded gold have come to grief while those who rely on banks feel safe and secure.

(c) Old-fashioned, illiterate or semi-educated people in villages do put forth the argument that what was good enough for their forefathers is good enough for them. But they have to be convinced that they are totally mistaken in hugging out-dated beliefs and practices. Our forefathers were not aware of the benefits of banks and other financial institutions. In fact, banks as such did not exist then. Ancient civilisation suited ancient times. People who refuse to march with the times and deny themselves the facilities that are now available through banks have to be adequately enlightened. They are ignorant and superstitious. The contention that what was good enough for our ancestors is good enough even in modern times, if carried to its logical conclusion would lead to absurd situations—denial of education in schools and colleges, refusal to use trains and buses (these were not there in ancient times), and to get the facility of medical advice, medicines and surgical operations. These very people who oppose banking would rush

to modern hospitals to get treatment and save their lives in serious cases. So what is needed to bring round such ignorant people is persuasion, patient argument with the use of convincing illustrations to establish the benefits that would accrue to them and their children if they patronise banks.

(d) With thousands of bank branches opened in rural areas since the nationalisation of 14 leading banks, the argument that banks are “urban institutions” is easy to counter. Countless areas formerly “unbanked” have lately been covered by bank branches to bring the benefits of banking right at the villager’s doorsteps. This development has to be brought to their notice. As for the second argument—“We are illiterate and may be cheated”—social workers and bank officers have to convince the villagers that even illiterate people can utilise the banking facilities. Thumb impressions are accepted, after verification, in place of signatures on bank forms. The villagers have also to be told that while “sahukars”, “banias” and other professional money lenders almost invariably cheat them, the banks do not. Everything in banks is above board, and no one who deposits money in bank faces the risk of losing it. The days when banks would fail are gone. The Government itself stands guarantee and all depositors can safely deal with banks and trust them with their hard-earned savings.

(e) True, an individual’s savings are largely his business and others should not interfere with them. But in countering this argument we have to establish our *bona fides* and convince the villagers that the network of bank branches is designed to keep their savings in safe custody and help in multiplying them through the addition of attractive interest. There is no intention to “interfere” with

the savings but to make the best use of the money in the interest of the depositor and the country. Banks exist to help, not to hinder the daily operations of the people.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

(Contd. from page 585)

Literature is the orchestration of platitudes.

—Thornton Wilder (1953)

While science gives the facts of existence, literature imparts to these facts the aroma of colour and music. On the meanest flower the poet casts a light that never was on sea or land. A primrose is only a yellow flower to the gardener or even the scientist but to a Wordsworth it can give thoughts that are too deep for tears. A cloud or a sunset, a wave or a whiff, may be ordinary phenomenon but they assume great significance in the eyes of the writer who pours all the lavishness of his language, all the harmony of his rhythm, all the wealth of his imagination to give it perennial charm. The common saying “Every one must die” has worn thin by long use. The bloke next door knows it and might say it better. But when Shakespeare says “A poor player that struts and frets his hour on the stage and is then heard no more”, the saying becomes a gem of literature. An ordinary stone has been carved into a beautiful statue. The English poet Keats possesses this felicity of expression which is Shakespearean. A prosaic man would say “No stir in the air, no stir in the sea”. But Keats dives headlong into the situation and writes:

“No stir of air was there
Not so much life as on a
summer’s day.

Robs not one light seed from
the feathered grass,

But where the dead leaf fell,
there did it rest.’

Intelligence TEST

1. Give one word for the following :

- (a) The art of folding paper.
(b) A pair of eyeglasses with a spring that clips on the nose.

2. Write new words on the right meaning the same as those on the left. New words should all end with 'Pose'.

- (a) Insert _____
(b) Assume _____
(c) Make up _____
(d) Resist _____

3. Name the capitals of the following countries.

- (a) Brazil (b) New Zealand

4. Study the words mentioned below carefully for exactly one minute. To check your memory, reproduce as many words as you can and also see if you can arrange them in the same order in which they appear. You must not see the words below after you have studied them for exactly one minute.

Words :—Revengeful, Stationery, Livelihood, Delicious, Censorship, Havildar, Assemble, Genius, Superficial, Wellbred, Lieutenant, Masculine, Virile, Effeminate, Wing Commander, Annihilate, Tranquillize, Exasperate, Subedar, Maliciousness.

5. A man is 5 years older than his wife and she is 18 years older than her son. If the son

will be 23 in 6 years time, what is the present age of the father?

6. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.

12. Supply the missing letters.

13. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.

7. Underline the odd man out. (Spellings are jumbled.)

Patrec Seuol Keds Rachi

8. Insert the word that means the same as the words outside the brackets.

SMALL (. . .) MEMORANDUM

9. Insert the missing word.

GRID (RING) HANG

STIR (. . .) GAFF

10. Insert the missing letter and number.

1	C
A	3

11. Supply the missing letter.

W T P M I —

16. A driver started from a point and drove 5 miles north, he turned left and drove 3 miles then he turned right and

drove 4 miles. Write down the last direction of his driving.

17. Choose the best answer from the following:—

Summer is warmer than winter because—

(a) The rays of the sun fall directly on earth.

(b) A day is longer in summer.

(c) The hot winds blow in summer.

(d) It is a natural phenomenon.

18. Choose the most appropriate of the four words given in brackets.

A girl always—

(runs, reads, breathes, weeps.)

19. If 69 is an odd number write R otherwise write W.

20. Which word comes first in the dictionary?

(a) Canopy (b) Candle (c) Cane (d) Candidate (e) Cannon.

21. Find the odd man out.

• | / 7 4 |

22. Vietnam lies to the east of Cambodia. What two countries border Cambodia on the north?

23. If you find a man cutting telephone wires, you will?

(a) Hand over the man to the police.

(b) Ask him the reason for cutting the wires and then take appropriate action.

(c) Call the passers-by and give him a sound thrashing.

(d) Not bother.

(e) Confiscate his implements.

Answers and Explanations

1. (a) Origami (2) Pince-nez

2. (a) Interpose (b) Suppose

(c) Compose (d) Oppose

3. (a) Brasillia
(b) Wellington

4. The same as the words appear in the question.

5. 40 years. ($23 - 6 = 17$; $17 + 18 + 5 = 40$)

6. 3. (Circles outside the figure count plus, circles inside count minus. $-3 + 4 = +1$, so the answer one circle outside the figure.)

7. Louse. (All the others are furniture: carpet, desk, chair.)

8. MINUTE.

9. TIFF. (The first letter of the word in brackets is the second letter of the first word, the second is the third letter of the first word, the third is the third letter of the second word, the fourth is the fourth letter of the second word.)

10. (Letters ascend by two alternately from numerator to denominator and similarly the numbers which correspond to the letters in the alphabet.)

11. F. (Skip 2 and 3 steps back in the alphabet alternately.)

12. S & T. (The words read HESITATE in an anti-clockwise direction.)

13. 1. (There are three sizes of triangle, three kinds of shading, three different positions for the circle, and either one, two, or three legs. Each of these is only found once in each row or column.)

14. 78. (Add the numbers outside the brackets and multiply by 3 to get the number inside the brackets.)

15. 11. (Subtracting the number on the door from the sum of the numbers in the windows gives the number on the roof.)

16. North.

17. (d)

18. Breathes.

19. R

20. (d)

21. 3. (The figure rotates anti-clockwise through half a quarter turn, but the black shading rotates one position further, except in 3, which is therefore the odd man out.)

22. Thailand and Laos.

23. (b).

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Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examination for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice out of the choices given below each question. More than one choices can be correct.

CIVICS

1. "Budget" is the:
(a) proposals of taxation
(b) annual financial statement
(c) Appropriation Bill
2. Who administers the oath of office to President of India?
(a) Vice-President
(b) Prime Minister
(c) Chief Justice of India
(d) Speaker of Lok Sabha
3. The elective strength of the Lok Sabha was increased from 525 to 545 with the help of:
(a) 30th Amendment
(b) 31st Amendment
(c) 33rd Amendment
4. By the 35th Amendment:
(a) the strength of Lok Sabha was increased from 525 to 545
(b) Sikkim was granted the status of an "associate" State
(c) Sikkim became the 22nd State of India
5. The Chairman of Rajya Sabha:
(a) is a member of Rajya Sabha
(b) is not a member of Rajya Sabha
(c) is not a member of Rajya Sabha but has the right to vote
6. When a money bill is sent to Rajya Sabha the latter must return it with its recommendation within:
(a) 14 days
(b) 20 days
(c) 24 days
(d) 10 days
7. In the matter of money bills the position of Rajya Sabha is:
(a) inferior
(b) superior
(c) same as of Lok Sabha
8. V.V. Giri was the:
(a) 5th President of India
(b) 4th President of India
(c) 6th President of India
9. The State Trading Corporation was set up in:
(a) 1956
(b) 1957
(c) 1958
(d) 1959
10. With which one of the following countries does India has the rupee payment agreement?
(a) Czechoslovakia
(b) Spain
(c) England
11. Local Self Government refers to:
(a) the government of State
(b) Local Bodies
12. In all "Civil cases" an appeal can be made to the Supreme Court not only if the High Court certifies that the case is fit for appeal but also that the case involves a dispute of sum not less than:
(a) Rs. 20,000
(b) Rs. 10,000
(c) Rs. 5,000
13. The Constitution of India cannot be amended unless:
(a) the Lok Sabha agrees so
(b) the Rajya Sabha agrees so
(c) the State Legislatures agrees so
14. The First Class Magistrate can hear cases in the first instance involving of fine up to Rs. 1,000/- and imprisonment upto:
(a) 3 years
(b) 2 years
(c) 1 year
(d) 4 years
15. The State Governments exercise control over their Municipalities through:
(a) Divisional Commissioners
(b) Mayors
(c) Tehsildars
16. The lowest civil courts are the:
(a) courts of Sub Judges

(b) Munsif's court

(c) Talukdars

17. Three High Courts of India have the power to hear the cases in the first instance. These are the High Courts of:

(a) Calcutta, Madras and Delhi

(b) Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi

(c) Calcutta, Madras and Bombay

(d) Madras, Bombay and Bangalore

18. The State List contains:

(a) 66 subjects

(b) 64 subjects

(c) 65 subjects

19. Which one subject of the following is contained in the Union List?

(a) Police

(b) Criminal Law

(c) Posts and Telegraphs

20. The strength of Legislative Council is:

(a) $1/3$ of Legislative Assembly

(b) $1/4$ of Legislative Assembly

(c) $2/3$ of Legislative Assembly

21. Which one of the following is not a State but a Union Territory?

(a) Himachal Pradesh

(b) Arunachal Pradesh

(c) Madhya Pradesh

(d) Meghalaya

22. The Supreme Court has Exclusive Original Jurisdiction in:

(a) all disputes between the Government of India and one or more States

(b) all disputes between an individual and the Government of India or the Government of State

(c) all disputes between two individuals

23. To be eligible to become a Judge of the Supreme Court a person should have had at least:

(a) 5 years experience as a Judge of High Court

(b) 10 years experience as a Judge of High Court

(c) 10 years experience as a Judicial Magistrate

24. A person can be debarred from taking his seat in the house if he has been absent, without taking the permission of the house, for:

(a) 60 days

(b) 30 days

(c) 50 days

25. The maximum strength of Lok Sabha has been fixed at:

(a) 520

(b) 525

(c) 545

26. Universal Adult Franchise means:

(a) voting right to all male adult citizens

(b) voting right to all educated adult citizens

(c) voting right to all adult citizens

27. The Indian Constitution consists of 397 Articles which are divided into:

(a) 21 Chapters

(b) 22 Chapters

(c) 25 Chapters

28. Article 23 of the Constitution prohibits:

(a) employment of children under age of 14

(b) traffic in human beings

(c) forced labour

29. The International Labour Organisation has its headquarters at:

(a) Geneva

(b) Munich

(c) Chicago

(d) Hague

30. The International Court of Justice is composed of:

(a) 20 Judges

(b) 15 Judges

(c) 10 Judges

INDIAN HISTORY

31. The last slave ruler was deposed by:

(a) Jalal-ud-Din

(b) Ala-ud-Din Khilji

(c) Malik Kafur

32. Muhammad Tughlaq shifted his capital from Delhi to:

(a) Calcutta

(b) Lahore

(c) Devagiri

(d) Kanauj

33. Timur invaded India in:

(a) 1398 A.D.

(b) 1498 A.D.

(c) 1450 A.D.

(d) 1396 A.D.

34. The dynasty founded by the two brothers Harihara and Bukka of Vijaynagar Empire was called:

(a) Saluva Dynasty

(b) Sangam Dynasty

(c) Taluva Dynasty

35. Razia Begum ruled during:

(a) 1236-1240

(b) 1236-1260

(c) 1240-1260

36. Chanakya wrote:

(a) Harshacharita

(b) Devichandra Gupta

(c) Arthshastra

37. The Independent Satavahan Kingdom was established by:

(a) Kanha

(b) Hal Satkarni

(c) Simuka

38. Kushans were also known as:

(a) Yueh-chi

(b) Kouei Chonang

(c) Hiungnu

39. Samudragupta defeated:

(a) 9 kings in the North and 12 in the south

(b) 10 kings in North and 15 in south

(c) 9 kings in North and 10 in south

40. Vasubandhu and Asanga lived during the reign of:

- (a) Samudragupta
- (b) Chandragupta
- (c) Ashoka

41. The Somnath Temple was destroyed by Mahmud of Ghazni in:

- (a) 1025 A.D.
- (b) 1027 A.D.
- (c) 1000 A.D.
- (d) 1009 A.D.

42. Qutab-ud-Din was succeeded by:

- (a) Aram Shah
- (b) Altmash
- (c) Razia Begum

43. The real name of Muhammad Tughlaq was:

- (a) Prince Salim
- (b) Prince Jauna
- (c) Prince Akhtar
- (d) Dara

44. The Portuguese traveller Paes visited India during the reign of:

- (a) Vira Narasimha
- (b) Raja Raja the Great
- (c) Krishnadeva Raya
- (d) Harihara

45. The foreign traveller Abdur Razzaq visited Vijaynagar in:

- (a) 1442-43 A.D.
- (b) 1441-42 A.D.
- (c) 1600 A.D.
- (d) 1600-02 A.D.

46. The foundation of Bahmani Kingdom was laid by:

- (a) Nasir-ud-Din Shah
- (b) Ala-ud-Din Bahman Shah
- (c) Taj-ud-Din Firoz Shah

47. Babar descended the throne in:

- (a) 1464 A.D.
- (b) 1564 A.D.
- (c) 1494 A.D.
- (d) 1594 A.D.

48. Krishnadeva Raya ruled from:

- (a) 1509-1530
- (b) 1508-1529
- (c) 1509-1529
- (d) 1600-1629

49. The first battle of Panipat was fought in:

- (a) 1566 A.D.
- (b) 1526 A.D.
- (c) 1528 A.D.

50. Rana Sanga was defeated by Babar in 1527 A.D. in the battle of:

- (a) Kanwah
- (b) Panipat
- (c) Haldighat

51. Babar died in 1530 A.D. at the age of:

- (a) 48
- (b) 47
- (c) 80
- (d) 50

52. Humayun was defeated at Kanauj by Sher Shah in:

- (a) 1539 A.D.
- (b) 1540 A.D.
- (c) 1530 A.D.

53. By the year 1554 Humayun became the master of whole of:

- (a) Northern India
- (b) India
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) Iran

54. Sher Shah's father Hasan Khan was the Jagirdar of:

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Sasaram in Bihar
- (c) Chausa

55. Sher Shah died on May 22:

- (a) 1555
- (b) 1545
- (c) 1455
- (d) 1547

WORLD HISTORY

56. Napoleon was defeated by British and Prussian forces at:

- (a) Waterloo
- (b) Moscow
- (c) Leipzig

57. The first passenger Railway was opened between:

- (a) Liverpool and Manchester
- (b) Liverpool and London
- (c) London and Manchester

58. The State of Bulgaria was created by the:

- (a) Treaty of San Stefano
- (b) Munich Agreement
- (c) Treaties of Locarno

59. The Great Wall of China is about:

- (a) 1500 miles long
- (b) 1600 miles long
- (c) 1800 miles long
- (d) 2000 miles long

60. The man who put an end to the feudal system in China called himself:

- (a) Shi-Hwang-li
- (b) Shan-ting
- (c) Si-Kin-Yi

61. A bitter battle outside Moscow between Napoleon and the Russians under Kutuzov was fought on September 7, 1812. This battle is known as:

- (a) Battle of Waterloo
- (b) Battle of Borodino
- (c) Battle of Blyen

62. Theodore Roosevelt became the President of U.S.A. in:

- (a) 1903
- (b) 1901
- (c) 1902
- (d) 1909

63. The Children's Crusade took place in:

- (a) 1212 A.D.
- (b) 1221 A.D.
- (c) 1222 A.D.

64. The First Crusade took place in:

- (a) 1096-1097 A.D.
- (b) 1098-1099 A.D.
- (c) 1196-1197 A.D.
- (d) 1296-1297 A.D.

65. Seljuk Turks conquered Jerusalem in:

- (a) 1076 A.D.
- (b) 1176 A.D.
- (c) 1075 A.D.

66. Napoleon became Commander-in-Chief of the army in Northern Italy at the end of:

- (a) 20
- (b) 27
- (c) 28

67. The War of the Austrian Succession lasted for:

- (a) 8 years
- (b) 9 years
- (c) 7 years

68. Columbus sailed from the harbour of:

- (a) Palos
- (b) Alexandria
- (c) Lisbon

69. Atomic Bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on:

- (a) 6th August, 1944
- (b) 6th August, 1945
- (c) 2nd August, 1945
- (d) 2nd August, 1944

70. In the year 1835:

- (a) First Telegraph came into existence
- (b) First Railway came into existence
- (c) First Aeroplane came into existence

71. Pearl Harbour was the main U.S. naval base in:

- (a) Hawaii
- (b) Aden
- (c) Formosa Islands

72. The Mongols were overthrown by the Chinese:

- (a) Ming Dynasty
- (b) Han Dynasty
- (c) Shang Dynasty

73. A movement for the return of the Jews to Palestine is called:

- (a) Zollverein
- (b) Zionism
- (c) Zorastrianism

74. Spain was invaded by Muslims under:

- (a) Tarik ibn Ziyad
- (b) Tarik-ud-Din
- (c) Tarik-Zabar

75. Which one of the following countries did not take part in World War II:

- (a) Germany
- (b) U.S.A.
- (c) England
- (d) Canada

GEOGRAPHY

76. The average rainfall in the Equatorial areas is between:

- (a) 200-300 cms
- (b) 150-350 cms
- (c) 100-200 cms

77. Dayaks of Borneo are connected with:

- (a) Savanna regions
- (b) Tropical monsoon regions
- (c) Equatorial regions

78. The sledges of the Eskimos are driven by dogs known as:

- (a) Alsatians
- (b) Huskies
- (c) Bulldogs

79. The country responsible of producing 40% of the total world's production of rubber is:

- (a) Malaysia
- (b) Ghana
- (c) Indonesia

80. Bandung is responsible for 75% of world's supply of:

- (a) Rubber
- (b) Cocoa
- (c) Kapok
- (d) Cinchona of quinine

81. Cherrapunji receives yearly average rainfall of about:

- (a) 1125 cm
- (b) 1025 cm
- (c) 2000 cm
- (d) 1127 cm

82. Bangkok is called by the tourists going there as:

- (a) Quaker city
- (b) Oriental Venice
- (c) Holyland
- (d) Granite city

83. Savanna regions are found between latitude:

- (a) 5° and 20° north and south of Equator
- (b) 10° and 30° north and south of Equator
- (c) 0° and 20° north and south of Equator

84. In Brazilian Highlands the Savanna regions are known as:

- (a) Campos
- (b) Llanos
- (c) Parkland

85. Khartoum is situated at the confluence of:

- (a) River Congo and Nile
- (b) Blue Nile and White Nile

- (c) Tigris and Euphrates

ANSWERS

(CIVICS)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (c) |
| 3. (b) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (b) | 6. (a) |
| 7. (a) | 8. (b) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (a) |
| 13. (b) | 14. (b) |
| 15. (a) | 16. (b) |
| 17. (c) | 18. (a) |
| 19. (c) | 20. (a) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (a) |
| 23. (a) | 24. (a) |
| 25. (c) | 26. (c) |
| 27. (b) | 28. (b) |
| 29. (a) | 30. (b) |

(INDIAN HISTORY)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 31. (a) | 32. (c) |
| 33. (a) | 34. (b) |
| 35. (a) | 36. (c) |
| 37. (c) | 38. (a) |
| 39. (a) | 40. (a) |
| 41. (a) | 42. (a) |
| 43. (b) | 44. (c) |
| 45. (a) | 46. (b) |
| 47. (c) | 48. (c) |
| 49. (b) | 50. (a) |
| 51. (b) | 52. (b) |
| 53. (c) | 54. (b) |
| 55. (b) | |

(WORLD HISTORY)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 56. (a) | 57. (a) |
| 58. (a) | 59. (a) |
| 60. (a) | 61. (b) |
| 62. (b) | 63. (a) |
| 64. (a) | 65. (a) |
| 66. (b) | 67. (a) |
| 68. (a) | 69. (b) |
| 70. (a) | 71. (a) |
| 72. (a) | 73. (b) |
| 74. (a) | 75. (d) |

(GEOGRAPHY)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 76. (b) | 77. (c) |
| 78. (b) | 79. (a) |
| 80. (d) | 81. (a) |
| 82. (b) | 83. (a) |
| 84. (a) | 85. (b) |

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Each of the following sentences is divided into three parts 1, 2 and 3. Indicate by its number the part in which a mistake occurs. If you do not detect any, put down the number 4.

(a) When I entered the room (1) the patient told (2) that the doctor left (3).

(b) How many times you have been warned (1) that this irregularity (2) might cost the job (3).

(c) The Principal announced (1) that the Annual Sports would be held (2) as soon as the Terminal Tests were over (3).

(d) While I stayed at the Ashram (1) I had to abstain every kind of intoxicant (2) which I am so fond (3).

(e) The Prime Minister has decided (1) that the additional funds would be divided equally (2) between the eleven States (3).

(f) Now that I have bagged a fat prize (1) I shall dispose off my scooter (2) and will purchase a car (3).

(g) No one of my friends (1) gave me the slightest hint (2) who they were looking for (3).

(h) Unemployment as well as illiteracy (1) has to be banished (2) so as to build up a healthy democracy (3).

(i) I can ascertain (1) that the candidate who is a graduate (2) belongs to a respectful family (3).

(j) After preparing a rough draft of the passage (1) I have given you (2) you should fair it out with ink (3).

Q. II. Indicate the appropriate alternative in each case by its number.

(a) You had better to the hospital at once.

1. be gone
2. be going
3. go

(b) At long last the Chief Minister ordered a ----inquiry into the police firing.

1. legal
2. judicial
3. lawful

(c) Finding him rude I caught him by----neck and slapped him.

1. his
2. the
3. (nothing is required)

(d) Have you come to know that he----in English.

1. is fail
2. is failed
3. has failed

(e) We shall engage a person who is good----accounts.

1. at
2. in
3. with

(f) Hurry up lest you----miss the train.

1. may
2. do
3. should

(g) They ignored the warning and----the trees.

1. felled
2. fell
3. dropped

(h) I told him --his face that he was a villain.

1. on
2. to
3. at

(i) The really rich man is one who lives----his income.

1. on
2. within
3. by

(j) You must lay by something----a rainy day.

1. for
2. on
3. against

(k) Disgusted with life as he was, he jumped----the river.

1. in
2. within
3. into

(l) The Minister assured the deputationists that the Government was seized ---the question.

1. with
2. on
3. of

Q. III. Complete the following sentences with appropriate words. You can take a hint from the meanings given in brackets as also the first and the last letters of each word.

1. The report of the Committee tries to w----h the misdeeds of the ministers (cover up).

2. He is completely s----d in his business dealing (plain-spoken).

5. It takes years of u—g determination to become an efficient surgeon (resolute).

4. The two armies made s—s offensives on two fronts (occurring at the same time).

5. The island is being used as a s—y for endangered species of animals (protected area).

6. I have decided to forgo t h i s particular television set because of its p—e price (very heavy).

7. This is a m—t arrangement till we finalise our programme (temporary).

8. There is a great d—y between his version of the accident and yours (disagreement).

9. It is unfair to make d—y remarks against your political opponents (damaging).

10. The c—t of merchandise arrived on the due date (shipment).

Q. IV. Only one of the three alternatives gives the correct use of the italicized word. Indicate it by its number.

(a) 1. The *conclave* lens used in microscope is imported from Germany.

2. The cardinals sat in *conclave* to elect the Pope of Rome.

3. Ultimately we came to the *conclave* that it was useless to argue with him.

(b) 1. The hailstorm was *seceded* by peals of thunder and flashes of lightning.

2. Bangladesh was compelled to *secede* from Pakistan.

3. The Principal very kindly *seceded* to my request.

(c) 1. My favourite dish is *redressed* chicken with chilli sauce.

2. The a c t o r s *redressed* themselves for a rehearsal.

3. We met the Chief Minister in a deputation for a *redress*

of our grievances.

(d) 1. Heavy *imposts* are likely in the new budget.

2. A number of new *imposts* have been created to cope with the increased work.

3. It is estimated that all *imposts* of foreign oil will stop by 1985.

(e) 1. Green uniforms have been ordered for all the platform *vendetta*.

2. We have collected all the requisite *vendetta* for the research on the subject.

3. Many of the criminal cases instituted against him are born out of political *vendetta*.

(f) 1. The mirage in the deserts is a case of optical *evasion*.

2. Indians will have to shed their habit of *evasion* of Government taxes.

3. Alexander's *evasion* of India though of short duration, left a lasting effect.

(g) 1. We threw away the husk as it was *invaluable*.

2. Finding it difficult to assess the price the inspector declared it as *invaluable*.

3. Your advice proved *invaluable* to me in time of need.

(h) 1. The enemy scattered *undermines* all over the area.

2. My health has been greatly *undermined* by the dampness of the climate.

3. We shall try to *undermine* the causes of the accident.

(i) 1. A number of sailors *circumspected* the earth in the sixteenth century.

2. I have always *circumspected* my neighbour of being a smuggler but I have no concrete proof.

3. You will have to be *circumspect* in choosing witnesses in support of your case.

(j) 1. The neighbours came to a *quash* over a trivial

question.

2. Of all drinks I like the orange *quash* the most.

3. The judge *quashed* the fine imposed by the lower court.

Q. V. Rearrange the jumbled words to make a proverb in each case.

1. Not Birds caught old chaff with are

2. Cup drop the run makes over last the

3. A blacks do make two white not

4. Disease know the is to cure half the

5. And a tell stick it lie to

Q. VI. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

The soldierly qualities latent in the American people as a whole had been revealed to their German adversaries in the German-American wars of 1917-18 and 1941-45; but the most impressive demonstration of American v a l o u r, discipline, generalship and endurance had been given in a war in which Americans had been arrayed against Americans. The war of 1861-65 between the Union and the Confederacy had been the longest, the most stubborn, the costliest in casualties, and the most fertile in technological innovations of all wars waged in the Western world between the fall of Napoleon and the outbreak of the First World War. Moreover the two World Wars that, within living memory, had harrowed Germany and Germany's Russian and West European victims as severely as the American Civil War had harrowed the South, had left the United S t a t e s virtually unscathed. The psychological effects that two world wars in one life time had produced on the moral of West Europeans had hardly made themselves felt on the American side of the

(Contd. on page 608)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

1. A car on which there is no accelerating force:
 - (a) must be at rest
 - (b) may be in motion
 - (c) is speeding up
 - (d) is slowing down
2. The function of the moderator in a nuclear reactor is:
 - (a) to slow down the neutrons
 - (b) to speed up the neutrons
 - (c) to absorb the neutrons
 - (d) to moderate the fissions
3. The moon does not fall into the earth despite the attraction between them because of:
 - (a) the fixed orbit in which the moon rotates
 - (b) the sun's opposing attraction
 - (c) the centrifugal reaction
 - (d) a gravitational repulsion
4. Practically all the energy used by man is:
 - (a) mechanical
 - (b) chemical
 - (c) electromagnetic
 - (d) traceable back to the sun
5. Among the following, the most suitable for use in ordinary thermometers is:
 - (a) hydrogen
 - (b) helium
 - (c) water
 - (d) alcohol
6. When egg white is coagulated, the protein is said to be:
 - (a) hydrolysed
 - (b) fermented
 - (c) denatured
 - (d) condensed
7. An example of a thermosetting plastic is:
 - (a) Lucite
 - (b) Nylon
 - (c) Polyethylene
 - (d) Bakelite
8. Of the following, which is the purest form of iron?
 - (a) cast iron
 - (b) pig iron
 - (c) wrought iron
 - (d) steel
9. The temperature at which a sample may exist in all three phases in equilibrium is known as:
 - (a) melting point
 - (b) boiling point
 - (c) triple point
 - (d) sublimation point
10. Which of the following is the most effective particle in effecting nuclear reactions?
 - (a) an electron
 - (b) a proton
 - (c) a neutron
 - (d) a positron
11. To determine if a dog is rabid, investigators must examine its:
 - (a) brain
 - (b) heart
 - (c) liver
 - (d) stomach
12. A Frog whose brain has been destroyed is still able to scratch himself. This is an example of a response called:
 - (a) instinct
 - (b) simple reflex
 - (c) conditioned reflex
 - (d) voluntary act
13. The greatest amount of parental care is given by organisms that:
 - (a) produce many offspring
 - (b) produce few offspring
 - (c) reproduce asexually
 - (d) have external fertilisation
14. Hormones are chemical substances that:
 - (a) carry on digestion
 - (b) fight bacteria
 - (c) stimulate the activity of organs
 - (d) prevent deficiency diseases
15. Normal mentality in children depends upon a sufficient secretion of:
 - (a) adrenalin
 - (b) thyroxin
 - (c) insulin
 - (d) secretin
16. What has probably been the most important reason for the great increase in the average length of life since the 18th century?
 - (a) reduction of deaths from infectious diseases
 - (b) conquest of cancer and heart disease
 - (c) improvement in methods of food production
 - (d) general improvement in housing
17. Children may be protected by the injection of "quadruple antigen" against:
 - (a) diphtheria, small pox, tetanus and leukaemia
 - (b) diphtheria, measles, leukaemia and typhoid
 - (c) diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio
 - (d) diphtheria, small pox, measles and tuberculosis
18. A substance that is composed of a dead virus or of a live virus treated in such a manner that it does not produce a disease is called:
 - (a) an antibody

- (b) an antitoxin
- (c) a toxin
- (d) a vaccine

19. Booster shots for polio are given in order to:

- (a) stimulate the body to produce more antibodies
- (b) produce passive immunity to the disease
- (c) provide antitoxins that the body is unable to produce
- (d) introduce antibiotics directly into the circulatory system

20. Disregarding Rh factors, a person with blood group A who needs a transfusion is most safely given blood from a donor whose genes for blood group are:

- (a) Ai (AO)
- (b) Bi (BO)
- (c) AB
- (d) BB

21. The nearest star to the sun is:

- (a) Mercury
- (b) Alpha centauri
- (c) Sirius
- (d) Polaris

22. The temperature deep in the sun's interior is estimated to be about:

- (a) 6,000°C
- (b) 100,000°C
- (c) 1,000,000°C
- (d) 20,000,000°C

23. The idea that the earth was the centre of the universe was maintained by:

- (a) Aristotle
- (b) Aristarchus
- (c) Copernicus
- (d) Galileo

24. The asteroids are between:

- (a) Mars and Jupiter
- (b) Mars and Earth
- (c) Jupiter and Saturn
- (d) Saturn and Uranus

25. The limit of vision with the unaided eye is about:

- (a) one million miles
- (b) two million miles
- (c) one million light years
- (d) two million light years

**Increases (I), Decreases (D),
Remains the same (RS)**

26. When a person takes several deep, rapid breaths in succession, the carbon dioxide concentration of his blood—.

27. When a dozen adult persons are crowded into a small, unventilated room, the amount of nitrogen in the air in the room—.

28. As light intensity begins to increase after a period of darkness, the rate at which photosynthesis occurs usually—.

29. When an experimental animal is given an injection of living bacterial cells, the animal's body temperature usually—.

30. After recovering from a common cold, the immunity from other viral infections usually—.

Explain

31. How can a radar set indicate the presence of a rocket 300 miles away due north?

32. Why does sound travel more rapidly through steel than through air?

33. Describe three differences between diesel engines and gasoline engines.

34. Do you think a cat or owl could see things in a totally dark room?

35. Why does a red object appear black when viewed through a green glass?

36. Association Test

Direction: *The first phrase in each of the following groups includes or is related to three of the others. Indicate the one unrelated item in each case.*

1. Simple microscope
- (a) enlarged image

- (b) virtual image
- (c) erect image
- (d) concave lens

2. Near-sightedness

- (a) image comes to focus in front of retina
- (b) spherical aberration
- (c) concave spectacles
- (d) sees nearby objects clearly

3. Far-sightedness

- (a) distorted cornea
- (b) image falls behind retina
- (c) convex spectacles
- (d) sees distant objects clearly

4. Projection lantern

- (a) virtual image
- (b) enlarged image
- (c) inverted image
- (d) convex lens

5. Eye

- (a) retina
- (b) concave lens
- (c) inverted image
- (d) iris

Fill in the blanks

37. (a) The breakdown of destructive phase of metabolism is called—.

(b) The—is the fluid part of the nucleus.

(c) The three distinct organs of the flowering plant are—, —, and—.

(d) Three micronutrients are —, —, and—.

(e) Internal respiration is the exchange of gases between the—and—.

ANSWERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) |
| 3. (c) | 4. (d) |
| 5. (d) | 6. (c) |
| 7. (d) | 8. (c) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (c) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (b) | 14. (c) |
| 15. (b) | 16. (a) |
| 17. (c) | 18. (d) |
| 19. (a) | 20. (a) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (d) |

(Contd. on page 608)

General Knowledge Test

Q. 1. Write a short note on Indo-China relations.

Ans. Indo-China Relations: For the past many months both India and China had thrown feelers indicating their desire to re-establish the old cordiality and reach a settlement of their pending disputes. On February 12, 1979, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, India's Minister of External Affairs, went to Peking for a week's stay and held talks with the new leaders of China. There was every indication that the two countries would again affirm the five principles of peaceful co-existence (Panchsheel) which would form the basis for a solution of all outstanding problems between the two countries.

The border issue was discussed, but hopes of an early settlement faded when it was found that China was not yet ready to end the border tangle. On February 14, Chinese leaders indicated that the differences on the Sino-Indian boundary question persisted and that the two countries put aside the question for the moment and to do some actual work to improve bilateral relations and thus help create the necessary climate for settling the fundamental issues later. Soon afterwards it was made known that India and China had agreed to maintain the existing tranquillity along their com-

mon border and would continue their search for a solution of the border issue on a priority basis.

But on February 18 Mr Vajpayee cut short his visit as a protest against the massive Chinese attack on Vietnam. It was later found that the Chinese aggression was pre-planned and that the Peking leaders had kept the Government of India in the dark about their intentions. In a statement to the Lok Sabha on February 21 Mr Vajpayee said that his visit to China did provide an opportunity for the first time in 19 years for a frank exchange of views on the complex and politically vital boundary question. The External Affairs Minister made it clear that he was never confident of resolving the dispute during only one visit to Peking, especially because the issue involved approximately 50,000 square miles of territory.

Another difficulty in India-China relations pertains to the attitude of China to the issue of Kashmir. The policy adopted by China in the last 15 years on this issue has been an additional and unnecessary complication in the prospects of a settlement. In 1962 the visits of Chinese leaders to Pakistan, the Chinese issued support to Pakistan's stand on Kashmir.

Indo-China relations received a distinct setback when on February 22, Mr Vajpayee announced that India regarded China as the aggressor against Vietnam. All possibility of mutual cordiality then faded.

Q. 2. Who are/were the following ?—

(i) Dr Mehdi Bazargan; (ii) Ayatollah Khomeini; (iii) Karim Sanjari; (iv) Charles Benjedid; (v) Dattatraya Harsuram Oza; (vi) Baruch DeGru; (vii) Nelson A. Rockefeller; (viii) Admiral R.L. Beach; (ix) U.S. Vatsyana; (x) Ven. Nityadarsu Fojit.

Ans. (i) He is Prime Minister of Iran; (ii) He is a high prelate of Iran; (iii) He is a member of Iran; (iv) He is President of Algeria; (v) He is Prime Minister of Malaysia; (vi) He is Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh; (vii) He was a former Vice President of the U.S.A. He died on January 27, 1978; (viii) He is India's Chief of Naval Staff; (ix) He is the eminent Hindi poet who has been awarded the Jnanpith Award for 1978; (x) Ven. Fojit of Japan is recipient of the 14th Jawaharlal Nehru Award for 'international understanding'. He has been general warning for total disarmament and liquidation of nuclear weapons in the world.

Q. 3. Explain the historical significance of the following:

- (i) Chandragupta II (ii) Shajahan (iii) The Glorious Revolution (iv) Sun Yat-Sen.

Ans. (i) Chandragupta II: (375-415 A.D.) was as brave as his father, Samudra Gupta. He defeated the Saka rulers of Malwa, Gujarat and Kathiawar and thus wiped away the last trace of foreign rule from India. Fa-hien, the first Chinese pilgrim, visited India during his reign. His period is known for art and literature. Great personages who lived during his period include Kalidasa—poet and dramatist, known as the Shakespeare of India; Aryabhatta, Brahmagupta and Brahmaputra—the greatest mathematicians and astronomers of their times; Kumarila Bhatta and Shankaracharya—the great Hinduism, and Dharmawanti—a great physician.

(ii) Shajahan: was son of Jehangir who reigned from 1627 to 1657. He was the Mughal Emperor of India. His period is described as the golden age of the Mughals. There was peace and prosperity in the country. He was able to maintain perfect order. He was a great builder. He built the Taj Mahal at Agra in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal. Lal Qila and Jama Masjid were also built in his time.

(iii) The Glorious Revolution: It is so called due to its bloodless character and far-reaching consequences. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 ended the despotic rule of the Stuarts in England, reduced monarchy to a sort of crowned Presidency or a free state, vested sovereignty in the Parliament and led to far-reaching and permanent changes in the English system of government.

(iv) Sun Yat-Sen: He was founder of the China Revolution.

League in Europe and Japan and played a prominent role in the 1911 revolution in China. He became the first President of the Chinese Republic in 1912.

Q. 4. Where are the following located:

- (i) Leather Research Institute; (ii) Paradeep Port; (iii) Namrup Fertilizer Plant; (iv) Hindustan Shipyard; (v) Defence Services Staff College.

Ans. (i) Madras; (ii) Paradeep Port is situated in the Bay of Bengal about 96 km. from Calcutta; (iii) Assam; (iv) Visakhapatnam; (v) Wellington (Tamil Nadu).

Q. 5. What do the following abbreviations stand for?

- (i) ESCAP; (ii) FICCI; (iii) GATT; (iv) FOB; (v) WBC.

Ans. (i) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; (ii) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce; (iii) General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade; (iv) Free on Board; (v) Wage Board Commission.

Q. 6. What are the following:

- (i) CIWTC, (ii) ESI, (iii) SAIL, (iv) IDPL, (v) NAYE.

Ans. (i) Central Inland Water Transportation Corporation. (ii) Employees' State Insurance. (iii) Steel Authority of India Limited. (iv) Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited. (v) National Alliance for Young Entrepreneurs.

Q. 7. Describe the functions performed by each of the following institutions:

- (a) N.C.E.R.T., (b) U.G.C., (c) C.S.I.R., (d) I.C.M.R., (e) I.C.A.R.

Ans. (a) N.C.E.R.T.: means National Council of Educational Research and Training. It assists the Union Ministry of Education and Social Welfare

in the formulation and implementation of its policies in the field of school education. The Council has developed new curricula and syllabi for Class I to XII in the New (10+2+3) pattern of education.

(b) U.G.C.: means University Grants Commission. Its function is to promote and co-ordinate university education. It determines and maintains standards of teaching in the Universities. The U.G.C. has the authority to make appropriate grants to different universities and implement development schemes.

(c) C.S.I.R.: means Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. It has a network of National Laboratories and is a major instrument of scientific and industrial research in universities and other centres of learning. The C.S.I.R. also maintains a register of scientists and technical personnel in the country. It also prepares scheme to encourage Indian scientists and technologists abroad to set up industries in India.

(d) I.C.M.R.: means Indian Council of Medical Research. The I.C.M.R. initiates, develops and co-ordinates medical research in the country through a network of research institutes and centres. It maintains seven permanent research institutes and centres in addition to a number of semi-permanent units.

(e) I.C.A.R.: means Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Its function is to plan, undertake, promote and co-ordinate agricultural and animal husbandry plans including research, education and field application. The I.C.A.R. gives support for the setting up and development of at least one Agricultural University in each State. It functions through a network of research laboratories.

Q. 8. What are the following ?

- (i) MIG; (ii) I.N.S. Vikrant; (iii) Boeing; (iv) Sagar Samrat; (v) Vijayant.

Ans. (i) Fighter aircraft; (ii) Aircraft-carrier; (iii) Jet passenger aeroplane; (iv) Drilling ship; (v) Military tank.

Q. 9. Name the authors of the following books:

- (i) The Good Earth; (ii) Gitanjali; (iii) War and Peace; (iv) Origin of Species; (v) India Wins Freedom; (vi) David Copperfield; (vii) Les Miserables; (viii) Raghuvansh; (ix) Godan; (x) Discovery of India.

Ans. (i) Pearl Buck; (ii) Rabindra Nath Tagore; (iii) Leo Tolstoy; (iv) Charles Darwin; (v) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad; (vi) Charles Dickens; (vii) Victor Hugo; (viii) Kalidas; (ix) Prem Chand; (x) Jawahar Lal Nehru.

Q. 10. Give the names of the currencies used in the following countries:

- (i) Burma; (ii) Bangladesh; (iii) Japan; (iv) Italy; (v) Indonesia.

Ans. (i) Kyat; (ii) Takka; (iii) Yen; (iv) Lira; (v) Rupiah.

Q. 11. Fill up the blanks:

(i) One gallon is equal to —litres.

(ii) One tonne is equal to —kg.

(iii) Indian standard time is —hours ahead of G.M.T.

(iv) Velocity of light is —miles per second.

Ans. (i) 4.546 (ii) 1,000 (iii) 5½ (iv) 1,86,000

Q. 12. Who discovered/ invented the following?

- (i) Wireless Telegraphy (ii) Dynamite (iii) Steam Engine (iv) X-ray (v) Germ theory of diseases.

Ans. (i) G. Marconi; (ii) Alfred Nobel; (iii) James Watt;

(iv) W. Konrad Roentgen; (v) F.W. Twort.

Q. 13. State the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Ans. Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy: Atomic explosion can be used for under-ground engineering which means utilising the effect of cratering contained in these explosions. These can be used for oil and gas stimulation. Cavities created by atomic explosions can be used for storing radio-active wastes from nuclear power-stations and chemical plants.

Atomic explosions can also be used for excavations which would otherwise be costly. The ground containing geothermal energy sources can be fractured with nuclear blasts. Then water can be introduced into the fractures and super-heated steam recovered for the generation of electricity.

Nuclear explosions can also be used for the construction of sea-level canals, dams, reservoirs, harbours, construction of highways and railways through difficult terrain, removal of navigation hazards etc.

Q. 14. Answer the following:

(i) What is the main harmful drug found in tobacco ?

(ii) When does an equinox occur ?

(iii) What is meant by cusec?

(iv) What is our National Bird?

(v) When does a person legally come of age in India?

Ans. (i) Nicotine; (ii) March 21 and September 22; (iii) It is flow of one cubic foot (of water) per second (unit in irrigation engineering); (iv) Peacock; (v) When a person becomes 18 years of age.

Q. 15. Answer the following:

(i) On what date did the United Nations come into existence ?

(ii) What is "Sagar Samrat"?

(iii) Which metal has the lowest melting point ?

(iv) For how long is the President of U.S.A. elected?

(v) How many pounds make a kilogram ?

(vi) Name the kind of mosquito which causes malaria.

(vii) Which Planet is known as the "Evening Star"?

(viii) Where is Karl Marx buried?

(ix) With what does petrol mix in the carburettor of an engine ?

(x) Why does the sky look blue ?

Ans. (i) October 24, 1945.

(ii) "Sagar Samrat" is India's first self propelled drilling ship. It is anchored at Bombay High about 150 km north of Bombay in the continental shelf of the Arabian Sea and is engaged in speeding up the country's oil wells.

(iii) Mercury.

(iv) 100 days (He came to office on 1.1.1950).

(v) 2.2 lbs.

(vi) Anopheles mosquito.

(vii) Venus.

(viii) London.

(ix) air.

(x) The blue colour of the sky is due to the scattering of light by dust particles or air molecules. This scattering is inversely proportional to the fourth power of wavelength. Consequently the shorter wavelengths are profusely scattered and when we look at a portion of the sky away from the sun, we receive this scattered and rescattered light which is rich in blue (short wavelength).

Q. 16. Mention the uses of the following:

- (i) Hygrometer; (ii) Potentiometer; (iii) combinator.

Ans. (i) Hygrometer: It is an instrument designed to measure the relative humidity of the atmosphere.

(ii) Potentiometer: It is an instrument for measuring direct current P.M.F.

(iii) Commutator: is a device for altering or reversing the direction of an electric current.

Q. 17. Explain the following:

(i) Why does iron rust?

(ii) Why does wood float on water?

(iii) Why does a liquid in a thermos flask keeps hot for a long time?

(iv) Why does a burning candle get extinguished when it is covered by a tumbler?

(v) Why do things weigh less on the moon than on the earth?

Ans. (i) Iron rusts because reacting with oxygen in the air it forms oxide—a compound of iron and oxygen.

(ii) Because wood has less specific gravity as compared to water.

(iii) A thermos flask consists of a double-walled glass vessel, the two inside surfaces having been silvered like a mirror. The space between the two walls is evacuated of air and is sealed. A vacuum is a perfect insulator as it will not transmit heat by conduction or convection in the absence of any material substance. The outer surface of the inner vessel being polished is a bad radiator but whatever little radiation occurs, it is reflected back when it falls on the inner polished surface of the outer vessel. Hence, in a thermos, the combination of vacuum and polished surface renders the passage of heat to or from the interior of the flask very slow. Hence a liquid keeps hot for a long time.

(iv) A lighted candle gets

extinguished when covered with a tumbler because as the supply of oxygen is cut off, the flames go out.

(v) The gravity on the moon's surface is only one-sixth of the gravity on the earth; hence things weigh less on the moon than on the earth.

Q. 18. Rewrite the following sentences filling in the blanks:

(i) Insulin is used in the treatment of—

(ii) Deficiency of red blood corpuscles causes—

(iii) Cataract is a complaint of the—.

(iv) Oranges and lemons contain Vitamin—.

(v) Bile is stored in—.

Ans. (i) diabetes; **(ii)** anaemia; **(iii)** eyes; **(iv)** 'C'; **(v)** liver.

Q. 19. Write brief notes on the following:

(i) Diabetes; (ii) Brain-drain.

Ans. (i) Diabetes: There is still not the faintest notion as to what causes diabetes. Its immediate cause is, however, failure in varying degrees of pancreas to produce insulin and inability of the body to make use of sugar—the glucose which is the end product of carbohydrate digestion. Its symptoms are, increasing appetite, great thirst, frequency in passing urine and presence of sugar in the urine, increasing loss of weight in spite of all that is taken in, appearance of boils and itching of the skin.

(ii) Brain-drain: Exodus of the best talents of one country to another due to better emoluments, living and working conditions etc. is called brain-drain. Brain-drain is a major problem which is causing considerable worry among the developing countries. Thousands of highly qualified engineers, doctors and other technical experts have gone over to the developed

countries, especially the U.S.A., Canada, the Latin American countries, the U.K. and Europe.

Q. 20. What do you understand by the following terms:

(i) Apartheid

(ii) Guillotine

(iii) Leukaemia

(iv) Light Year

(v) Tower of Silence.

Ans. (i) Apartheid: It is a word from the Afrikaans language—spoken in South Africa. Its literal meaning is "apart-hood". The word is used to describe the policy of keeping the white and the black people separate from each other. It also means favouring one race at the cost of another. South Africa and Rhodesia follow this policy.

(ii) Guillotine: was the machine brought into use in France in the eighteenth century for beheading condemned prisoners. Recently it was learnt that the use of the machine has been discontinued.

(iii) Leukaemia: It is a malignant condition of blood in which there is proliferative, purposeless increase of white blood cells in the blood, along with premature cells. The condition usually ends fatally.

(iv) Light Year: astronomical measure of distance; the distance travelled by light in one year—approximately 6×10^{15} miles (6 million million miles).

(v) Tower of Silence: or *dakhma*, a tower about 25 ft. high built by the Parsees for their dead. The corpse is taken inside by the professional corpse-bearers and left at the tower to be consumed by vultures. Parsees do not burn or bury their dead, and the *dakhma*, in their view, is to protect the living and the elements from defilement.

(Contd. on page 606)

1. Relevance of Gandhi Today

The greatness of a scripture or a prophet lies in being perennially relevant. Shorn of minor details which might change with the passage of time the core of the message is ever-fresh, everlasting. Lord Buddha preached "Hatred does not cease by hatred at any time; hatred ceases by love"; or Jesus Christ said "Those who live by the sword shall perish by the sword"; the sayings have a contemporary applicability. Gandhi got us freedom but we killed him and thought that his thinking was outmoded and that new times needed new leadership. Blinded by prejudice, brutalised by self-interest, vulgarised by caste-pride, we scorned him, we scoffed at him and turned our backs on him. But the truths that he uttered are asserting themselves. We shall ignore them at our peril.

If Gandhi pitted himself against British Imperialism he was no less opposed to indigenous capitalism. On the eve of Salt Satyagraha he denounced the latter in unequivocal terms. "The greatest obstacle in the path of non-violence is the presence in our midst of the indigenous interests that have sprung up from British rule, the interests of moneyed men, speculators, scrip-holders, land-holders, factory-owners and the like. All these do not always realise that they are living on the blood of the masses and when they do, they become as callous as the British principals, whose tools

and agents they are. If they could but realize that they must give up their blood-stained gains, the battle is won for non-violence. But non-violence has to be patient with them as with the British principals. The aim of the non-violent worker must ever be to convert."

Even the most fanatical communist could not have diagnosed the malady better. The remedy, however, is wholly Gandhiji's own. More and more the world is realizing that this remedy is ultimately more efficacious.

Gandhi preached equality—equality as between man and man and as between man and woman. Socialism, pink, red or scarlet talks of guaranteeing bread and butter to one and all but what is known as human equality is generally blacked out in its text-books. Gandhiji combined the crux of socialism with the essence of democracy, the idealised picture of democratic socialism, a picture that India holds out to the world. Gandhiji puts it in his own inimitable style. "Socialism is a beautiful word and, as far as I am aware, in socialism, all the members of the society are equal—none low, none high. In the individual body the head is not high because it is the top of the body, nor are the soles of the feet low, because they touch the earth. Even as parts of the body are equal, so are the members of society. That is social-

ism."

His concept of the welfare state may well be commended to the attention of our rulers and more so to the "haves". The Swaraj of my dream meant the creation of a state where the necessities of life would be enjoyed by all. I have not the slightest doubt that Swaraj is not Purna Swaraj until these amenities are guaranteed to all under it.

Gandhi was every inch a revolutionary. From his love of Ramdhun, his loin-cloth or goat's milk one may get the impression of an anchorite or an ascetic. But there was always an economic content in whatever he preached. What a stern warning this ascetic administered on the eve of Independence.

If the present owning class did not of its own accord become trustees, force of circumstances would compel the reform or the alternative would be utter destruction. The present power of the Zamindars, the Capitalists and the Rajahs can hold sway only so long as the common people do not realize their own strength. If the people non-co-operate with evil of zamindari and capitalism, it must die of inanition.

Living words breathing prophency and warning!

2. Should English Quit ?

When the British left Indian shores it was hoped that English also would leave this country at a no distant date. The most sanguine of its protagonists could only expect that even if it stayed on in some form it would forfeit its predominant status. The view was reinforced by the unequivocal declaration in our Constitution:

"The official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script. For a period of fifteen years from the commencement of this Constitution, the English language shall continue to be used for all the official purposes of the Union for which it was being used immediately before such commencement."

The Constitution commenced in 1950 and English should have been replaced even as a link language in 1965 but by an irony of circumstances this language goes on as merrily as, if not merrier than, before. The number of public schools, of Convents, of Montessories, all English medium institutions has registered a steep rise. Cases have come to light where the use of a Hindi word in a class is punishable with a fine, if not a slap. Every middle-class family prides itself on sending its children to these schools. Not only government officials, even ministers who cry themselves hoarse on our duty towards Rashtrabhasha do not feel any qualm in patronising these schools. *Et tu, Brute*. All sorts of arguments, quite a few of them specious, are advanced in support of the retention of English and even the *status quo*. The most vehement of these is that it is our doorway to the west, and opens up vast vistas of science, technology and literature. It is the most widely used, spoken as well as written. It has subtle nuances and shades of expression which makes it an ideal medium of communication.

If nothing else, we should retain it for its beneficent role in our movement of freedom and democracy as well as its contribution towards our cultural renaissance.

Even the most ardent advocate will have to admit that the role of English has been that of a catalytic agent. When the experiment is over, only a fool will cling to the catalytic agent. And there is the irrefutable argument from statistics. English, today, touches only a fringe of our population. In fact, it is the language of our elite or on lower levels, the petty officials, the quill-drivers who move the juggernaut of bureaucratic administration. More than eighty per cent of our people residing in villages do not understand it, except for a word here or a word there which they have picked up during their visit to the town. At a modest estimate it might take two centuries to make this language our *lingua franca*. With our huge democratic Leviathan waking up out of the slumber of centuries English cannot remain our medium of mass-communication. Apart from this argument of non-feasibility there is the question of national self-respect. Already a good deal of damage has been done. Our schools, colleges and universities have been greatly handicapped by the use of English as a compulsory subject. How much of our talent has withered and rotted. The sooner this tyranny is over, the better for the country.

With the lucidity and precision characteristic of him, Gandhiji put the issue in its correct perspective. English should go as the medium of instruction and be replaced with the mother-tongue. Gandhiji was no English-hater. In fact he wrote in an English which even the Englishmen envied.

But as a patriot his heart was sore at what harm this language had done. "It is my considered opinion that English education in the manner in which it has been given has emasculated the English educated Indians, constrained our intellect and rendered us effeminate".

English has no legal or moral right to occupy the pre-eminent position it did during the British regime. Its place might well be in the eighth schedule of our Constitution.

G. K. TEST

(Contd. from page 604)

Q. 21. What and where are the following?

(i) Kanchenjunga; (ii) Kavaratti; (iii) Kaziranga; (iv) Khetri; (v) Kovalam.

Ans. (i) Kanchenjunga: is the world's third highest mountain peak (height 28,208 ft.). It stands in the Himalayas on the borders between Nepal and Sikkim State of India, 46 miles north-west of Darjeeling, from where it is conspicuous.

(ii) Kavaratti: is the headquarters of Lakshadweep, a Union Territory of India, formerly known as Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands.

(iii) Kaziranga: is a game sanctuary in Assam.

(iv) Khetri: in Rajasthan is known for copper mining project.

(v) Kovalam: is a sea-beach about 16 km. from Trivandrum in Kerala State recently developed as a tourist resort by the Tourism Corporation of India.

Q. 22. Who are the reigning national champions in:

(i) Badminton (*men's singles*); (ii) Billiards; (iii) Football; (iv) Hockey; (v) Tennis (*men's singles*).

Ans. (i) Prakash Padukone; (ii) Michael Ferreira; (iii) Bengal; (iv) Indian Airlines; (v) Ramesh Krishnan.



Political Power and State

These days when so many instances of abuse of political power come to our notice every day, it would be relevant to examine how Gandhiji looked upon such power, and in what manner, according to him, it should ultimately develop.

Unlike a large number among the politicians today, Gandhiji looked upon political power as, not an end in itself, but as one of the means whereby people could be enabled to improve their condition in every department of life. In his opinion, it meant the people's ability to regulate their national life through their chosen representatives. In fact, he wanted the process to be carried to a stage where national life should become self-regulating so that no representation remains necessary, and every individual governs himself in such a manner that he is never a source of annoyance to his neighbour.

Gandhiji believed that if men continued to work for such a self-regulating society, it was not impossible of achievement. In his view, the best state was that of enlightened anarchy where everyone is his own ruler, hence there is no political power and therefore, there is no state.

Thoreau has said that that government is best which

governs the least. Gandhiji not only endorsed this view, but went a step further. He visualized a state without government coming into existence in India, if only the people could shed the fear of death as completely as they had shed the fear of prisons. He realised that it required supreme courage and bravery which it may not be possible for everybody to muster but even then, he held that any effort in this direction would be worthwhile. He said "If we continue to work for such a society, it will slowly come into being to an extent, such that the people can benefit by it. Euclid's line is one without breadth but no one has so far been able to draw it and never will. All the same it is only by keeping the ideal line in mind that we have made progress in geometry. What is true here is true of every ideal."

Gandhiji's opposition to the State arose from the fact that the State represents violence in a concentrated and organised form. It is at best a soul-less machine owing its existence to violence which it can never abjure. Although apparently it does good by minimising exploitation, the greatest harm it does to mankind is to destroy individuality without which no progress is possible.

In Gandhiji's scheme of things, the individual always had the pride of place. He had discovered that man is superior to any system evolved by man. Therefore, the individual always came before the State, the sole *raison d'être* for the existence of which is how far it can benefit the individual. He exhorted the individual to attain real self-government which, according to him, means "continuous effort to be independent of government control, whether it is a

foreign government or a national government."

Nationalisation

Gandhiji was against all concentration of power—whether social, economic or political, because, according to him, it militated against the principle and practice of non-violence. He was in favour of the ownership of key industries being collectivised. But to achieve this, he recommended that those who ran such industries should be gently persuaded to accept the position of trustees for their wealth, or to extend their cooperation in establishing state-ownership. In his opinion, the violence of private ownership is less injurious than the violence of the State. Therefore, he supported a minimum of State ownership, and that too only if it became unavoidable. His main objection to state ownership is the element of coercion in it. The State can no doubt expropriate the capitalists by force but according to Gandhian philosophy, that will hardly solve the problem because nothing enduring can be built on force. He accepted nationalisation or state takeover only as the last resort to be adopted only when the people concerned refused or failed to behave as trustees. In that event, he was not against depriving such people of their possessions through the State with the minimum exercise of violence.

State

A state to prosper, must be built on foundations of a moral character, and this character is the principal element of its strength, and the only guaranty of its permanence and prosperity.

—J.L.M. CURRY

Objective-Type Tests—English Language

(Contd. from page 598)

Atlantic, and in 1956 it could not be doubted that the American people would indeed be prepared to face the terrors of a war with the Soviet Union rather make any concessions to the Soviet Union that, in American eyes, would be tantamount to submission to a Russian ascendancy.

—ARNOLD TOYNBEE

A. The true qualities of the American people were revealed at their best in

1. war of 1917-18
2. war of 1941-45
3. war of 1861-65

B. What, according to Toynbee, were the special features of the American Civil War?

C. Toynbee believes that in case of a possible conflict with Russia

1. America would surrender
2. America would come to a compromise
3. America will fight it out

D. Give the meanings of the following words and phrases:

latent; arrayed; costliest in casualties; fertile in technological innovations; harrowed; unscathed; tantamount to submission.

E. Suggest a suitable title for the passage.

ANSWERS

(Question I)

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) 2 and 3 | (b) 1 and 3 |
| (c) 4 | (d) 2 and 3 |
| (e) 3 | (f) 2 and 3 |
| (g) 1 and 3 | (h) 4 |
| (i) 1 and 3 | (j) 3 |

(Question II)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) 3 | (b) 2 |
| (c) 2 | (d) 3 |
| (e) 1 | (f) 3 |
| (g) 1 | (h) 2 |
| (i) 2 | (j) 3 |
| (k) 3 | (l) 3 |

(Question III)

1. whitewash
2. straightforward
3. unswerving
4. simultaneous
5. sanctuary
6. prohibitive
7. make-shift
8. discrepancy
9. derogatory
10. consignment

(Question IV)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) 2 | (b) 2 |
| (c) 3 | (d) 1 |
| (e) 3 | (f) 2 |
| (g) 3 | (h) 2 |
| (i) 3 | (j) 3 |

(Question V)

1. Old birds are not caught with chaff.
2. The last drop makes the cup run over.
3. Two blacks do not make a white.
4. To know the disease is half the cure.

5. Tell a lie and stick to it.

(Question VI)

(A) 3

(B) It brought out American bravery, sense of discipline, quality of leadership and tenacity. At the same time it was the longest, the most tenacious, the bloodiest but the richest in scientific inventions.

(C) 3

(D) latent : hidden
arrayed : ranged

costliest in casualties : The number of the killed was the biggest so far

fertile in technological innovations : A number of inventions were made

harrowed : troubled
unscathed : uninjured

tantamount to submission : amounting to surrender

(E) American character incompatible with surrender.

Objective-Type Tests—Everyday Science

(Contd. from page 600)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 23. (a) | 24. (a) |
| 25. (d) | 26. D |
| 27. RS | 28. I |
| 29. I | 30. RS |

31. It sends out a pulse of high frequency radiation and picks up the reflected echo. Distance is measured by timing the round trip of the radio wave to the object and back. Direction is determined by noting where the antenna is pointing.

32. The elasticity of steel is greater. This effect is greater than the increased density of the steel. The net result is that the ratio of elasticity to density is much greater for steel than that for air.

33. Diesel engines have a higher compression ratio, contain no spark plugs (the heat of compression of the air ignites

the fuel), and diesel fuel is less expensive than gasoline. A gasoline engine has a carburettor whereas a diesel has a fuel injection-system.

34. No. For an object to be visible, it must either reflect light off its surface or emit its own light.

35. A red object reflects no green light, and the green glass transmits only green light. Thus, the red object looks black.

- | | |
|------------|--------|
| 36. 1. (d) | 2. (b) |
| 3. (a) | 4. (c) |
| 5. (b) | |

37. (a) catabolism
- (b) nuclear sap
- (c) root, stem leaf
- (d) manganese, boron and zinc
- (e) blood, body cells



SPORTS

NATIONAL GAMES

Honours Shared: Honours were well shared in the National Games which concluded at Hyderabad on February 22. Revived after 10 years, the last having been held at Cuttack in 1968, the Games were inaugurated by the Union Education Minister, Dr P.C. Chunder and were declared closed by Dr M. Chenna Reddy, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. The six-day Festival attracted more than 6,000 sportsmen and women from all over the country and competitions were held in nine disciplines.

Athletics: Kerala emerged as the strongest athletic State in India when they swept Inter-State Championships, reaping 19 gold, 14 silver and 13 bronze medals. The first six in the medals' tally were:

State	G	S	B
Kerala	19	14	14
Maharashtra	12	3	9
Punjab	9	11	7
Bihar	9	8	6
Karnataka	8	6	5
Tamil Nadu	6	11	11

West Bengal's Rita Sen proved the fastest woman athlete when she won the 100 metres in 12.6 seconds.

International Angel Mary proved the most outstanding woman athlete of the Meet. She won five gold medals, three in individual events and two in the relays.

Adil Sumariwala of Maharashtra claimed the title of the fastest man of the Meet when he burst through the tape in 10.7 seconds in the 100 metres. He completed a grand sprint double

by winning the 200 metres in 21.9 seconds.

Wrestling: Services grapplers dominated the wrestling contests, winning three gold and one silver medals. Haryana were a close second with two gold, one silver and two bronze medals. Delhi finished third with two gold, one silver and one bronze medals.

Volleyball: Punjab retained the men's national title for the 13th year in succession when they defeated Rajasthan in the final by 17-15, 15-9, 15-13. The women's crown went to Bengal who defeated Punjab in the final by 15-4, 15-9, 9-15, 8-15, 15-7.

Cycling: Bihar retained the men's team title in cycling with a tally of 41 points. The women's championship was kept by Orissa with 19.5 points.

The individual honours in the men's section were shared by Andhra's Mohammad Mukkaram Ali and Bihar's R.S. Randhawa with eight points each. Minoti Mahapatra of Orissa was adjudged the champion woman cyclist for the third time in succession. She collected 13.5 points.

Weightlifting: Railways regained the weightlifting team title by ousting Services to the second place. In the Inter-State team championships, Tamil Nadu kept their top position and Punjab finished second.

Handball: Air Force claimed the men's handball championship with a 17-7 win over Andhra Pradesh. Vidharba caused a surprise by defeating fancied Bengal, 2-0, in the women section.

Gymnastics: Chandigarh, with 191.85 points clinched the team championship in gymnastics. Services, with 178.55 points and Haryana, with 147.95, came second and third respectively. Samir Dev of Chandigarh was adjudged the best gymnast among men and in the women's section, the same distinction went to Kalpana Debnath of Tripura.

Boxing: Services pugilists won nine of the 11 finals to retain the boxing title. They thus kept the monopoly which began wayback in the 10th championships held in Calcutta in 1963.

Judo: Maharashtra 'B' men, with four golds, two silvers and one bronze, and Maharashtra 'A' women, with one gold, three silvers and one bronze, won their respective team championships. Natin Kamikar of Maharashtra was adjudged the most scientific Judoka of the Meet.

ATHLETICS

A.I. Open Meet: Heavy Engineering Sports Board emerged team champions in the men's section of the 17th All-India Open Athletics Meet which concluded at Jamshedpur on March 11. They collected 62 points against the Services' 52. Police, with 37 points, finished third.

Railways, the reigning champions in the women's section, retained their title with 81 points. Kerala (21) and Bengal (17) came second and third respectively. The most outstanding performance of the Meet was by international Angel Mary Joseph who claimed three gold medals in long jump, 100 metres hurdles and as a member of the Railway team in the 4x100 metres relay.

BADMINTON

Thomas Cup: India defeated Malaysia by 5-4 in the final of the Thomas Cup Asian Zone Badminton Tournament at Kuala Lumpur on February 25. This was India's first win over Malaysia in three clashes. India thus qualified for the final round of the tournament, to be held at Jakarta in May.

RESULTS

Singles: Prakash Padukone (*India*) beat Phua Ah Hua, 15-4, 15-1; Saw Swee Leonc (*Malaysia*) beat Syed Modi, 15-11, 15-10; Syed Modi beat Phua Ah Hua, 15-7, 10-15, 15-1; Prakash Padukone beat Saw Swee Leone, 15-5, 15-8; James Selveraj (*Malaysia*) beat Pradeep Ghande 15-11, 15-2.

Doubles: Prakash Padukone and Uday Pawar (*India*) beat Moo Foot Lian and James Selveraj, 15-5, 15-10; Pradeep Ghande and Sanjay Sharina (*India*) beat Ho Kim Soon and Kwek Chiew Peng (*Malaysia*), 15-7, 15-8; James Selveraj and Moo Foot Lian beat Pradeep Ghande and Sanjay Sharma, 15-11, 15-5; Ho Kim Soon and Kwek Chiew Peng beat Uday Pawar and Leroy D'Sa, 15-4, 15-4.

Sir John Thomas, one of the game's most famous players of the past and President of the International Badminton Federation, presented the cup for this competition which started in 1948. The competition comprises five singles and four doubles matches.

BILLIARDS

International Invitation Tournament: Michael Ferreira of India won the International Invitation Billiards Tournament at Bombay on February 24. English amateur Norman Dagley and professional John Barrie were second and third respectively.

CHESS

Women's National Championship: Rohini Khadilkar won the Women's National Chess Championship for the third time in succession at Madras on March 8. She tallied eight points. Her sister, Vasanti, with 7.5 points, got the second place.

National Junior Championship: M. Ramesh won the 8th National Junior Chess Championship at Nagpur on February 28. He collected eight points and remained undefeated in the contest. Thirteen-year-old Dibyendu Baru of Bengal finished second.

CRICKET

Pakistan-New Zealand Tests: The third and final Test between Pakistan and New Zealand ended in a draw at Auckland on February 28. Pakistan thus won the series, 1-0.

SCORES

New Zealand: 254 and 281 for eight dec. *Pakistan:* 359 and eight for no wicket.

The second Test between these two countries had remained inconclusive at Napier on February 21.

SCORES

Pakistan: 360 and 234 for three; *New Zealand:* 420

India-Pakistan Juniors' Tests: The fifth and final Test between India and Pakistan, for players under 19, ended in a draw at Lucknow on February 22. There was also no decision in the previous four matches.

SCORES

India: 244 and 51 for eight declared; *Pakistan:* 122 and 65 for five wickets.

HOCKEY

National Championship: Indian Airlines again lifted the Rangaswamy Cup when they

defeated Railways by 2-0 in the double-leg final of the National Hockey Championship at Hyderabad on March 10. Services claimed the third position with a 3-0 win over Orissa.

Indian Airlines, granted affiliation to the Indian Hockey Federation only four years ago, shared the trophy with Railways in 1977, won it outright in 1978 and this year, the losers on both occasions being Railways. Railways, on the other hand, have had a good share of honours in this competition. Since the inception of the championship in 1928, they have won it 14 times, including sharing it with Madras and Punjab, and have been runners-up four times.

SHOOTING

Skeet International Contest: Gurbir Singh of Punjab won the Skeet Shooting International contest with a score of 175/200 at New Delhi on March 8. Bhim Singh of Kota (160/200) and Harisimran Singh of Punjab (158/200) got the second and third places respectively.

Gurbir, Harisimran and Karanbir Sodhi helped Punjab to clinch the team title with a score of 359/450. Rajasthan (324/450) and another team from Punjab (311/450) finished second and third respectively.

TABLE TENNIS

World Championships: India will be represented by five men and three women in the World Table Tennis Championships at Pyongyang (*North Korea*) from April 25 to May 6. The selected players are:

Men (Swaythling Cup): Manjit Dua (*Captain*), V. Chandrasekhar, Sudhir Phadke, R. Hari and Vilas Menon.

Women (Corbillion Cup): Shailaja Salokhe (*Captain*), Indu Puri and Vyomma Shah.

(Contd. on page 614)

The Competition Master

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

B.N.P.: Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

T.U.L.F.: Tamil United Liberation Front.

AWARDS

Filmfare's Best Actor Award: Amitabh Bachchan has been given the award for his spirited, popular double role—of a smuggler and a village bumpkin—in the film "Don". This is the second year in succession Amitabh Bachchan gets the Filmfare award.

Filmfare's Best Actress Award: has been given to Nutan for her role of a strong-willed mother in "Main Tulsi Tere Aangan Ki". This is Nutan's fifth trophy.

"Golden Bear" Film Award: "David", directed by West German director Peter Lillenthal, has won the "Golden Bear" award for the best full length film at the Berlin Film Festival.

U.S. award for Indian Scientist: Prof Babulal Saraf, head of the Physics Department of Rajasthan University, has been awarded the first prize by the American Physics Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers for developing a highly sophisticated oscillator to be used by students and teachers in science laboratories.

The new oscillator had been acclaimed by the Indian Institutes of Technology in Delhi, Bombay and Kanpur. Besides, 65 colleges under Rajasthan University were using the oscil-

lator in their science laboratories.

Frederic Joliot Curie Medal: The Frederic Joliot Curie Medal of the World Peace Council has been awarded to the Jamaican Prime Minister, Mr Michael Manley.

The award was presented to Mr Manley during a seminar on the contribution of non-aligned countries to peace, national independence, justice and social progress inaugurated at Kingston (*Jamaica*) on March 15.

Dr B.C. Roy awards: Thirteen eminent medicos have been selected for the Dr B.C. Roy National awards for outstanding contribution in the field of medicine.

The awards which carry a cash prize of Rs. 5,000 and a medal have been instituted in memory of late Dr B.C. Roy.

The awardees are: Dr (Mrs) Santosh Chawla, principal and prof of radiology, Lady Harding Medical College, Delhi; Dr P.K. Sethi, prof and head of the department of orthopaedic surgery, S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur.

Dr P.K. Banerjee, prof and head of the department of physiology, Dr B.C. Roy post-graduate Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, University College of Medicine, Calcutta University.

Dr C. Balakrishnan, prof of plastic surgery, post-graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (Chandigarh); Dr A.S. Thambiah, prof of der-

Abbreviations

Awards

Places

Space Research

Miscellany

matology Medical College, Madras.

Dr P.S.R.K. Haranath, vice-principal and prof of pharmacology, Institute of Medical Sciences, Osmania Medical College (Hyderabad).

Dr J.L. Gupta, consultant in plastic surgery and head of the department of burns, plastic and maxillofacial surgery, Safdarjang Hospital (Delhi).

Dr B.B. Sethi, prof and head of the department of psychiatry, K.G.'s Medical College (Lucknow), Surgeon Commander A.K. Deb VSM Indian Navy (Bangalore), Dr N. Gopinath, prof and head of the department of cardiothoracic and vascular surgery, All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

Dr B.B. Gaitonde, director of Haffkine Institute and director, Medical Education and Research (Bombay).

Dr Ranjan K. Kanavaty, K.G.'s Medical College (Lucknow).

Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Memorial Prizes: Eight scientists have been nominated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the Rafi Ahmed Kidwai memorial prizes for the biennium 1976-77 for their significant contribution to agriculture, animal sciences and fisheries.

They are Dr T.N. Khoshoo, Director National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow, (horticulture); Dr S.R. Verma, professor and head of the department, farm power and machinery, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana; Dr H.R. Chauhan, professor and head of the department, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar (agricultural engineering); Dr P.V. Dehadri, Dr R.N. Pal, Dr N.K. Thakur, Mr K.V. Murugesan and Mr H.C. Pathak of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, Calcutta

(fisheries).

Dr T.N. Khoshoo's work on genetic evolutionary race histories of ornamental and some fruit plants, delineation of gene pool for breeding purposes, centres of origin, taxonomy and documentation of cultivable plants has contributed substantially to the knowledge in these areas.

Joint Prize: Drs S.R. Verma and H.S. Chauhan jointly share the prize for their significant contributions in the field of agricultural engineering.

Dr Chauhan has contributed towards efficient water management especially the study of spherical flow of water to non-penetrating cavity wells which would assist in the assessment of aquifer constants in artesian aquifers.

Drs P.V. Dehadri, R.N. Pal, N.K. Thakur and Mr K.V. Murugesan and Mr S.C. Pathak jointly share the prize for their outstanding contributions in the field of fisheries. This group has developed a culture system of air-breathing fish suited for utilisation of swamps and derelict ponds.

The Rafi Ahmed Kidwai memorial prize instituted in 1956, carries Rs. 10,000 in cash and a medal.

Nehru Award for outstanding post-graduate Research in Agriculture and Animal Sciences: The ICAR has selected five scientists for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for their outstanding post-graduate research in agriculture and animal sciences for 1978.

They are Dr R.D. Iyer, (plant breeding and genetics); Dr (Mrs) A. Sundara Bai (fisheries); Dr S.S. Zombade (animal nutrition); Dr Srikant Kulkarni (plant pathology) and Dr N.G. Bhole (agriculture engineering).

Hari Om Trust Award: Besides six persons have been

nominated to receive Hari Om Trust Award for their outstanding contributions in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries. They are Dr K. Alagaraswami; Dr A.G. Sathavanesan; Mr K. Perumal; Dr T.R. Chadha; Dr B.S. Ramappa and Dr O. Sreemannerayanaha.

Balzan Prize: Mother Teresa, Yugoslav born Roman Catholic nun noted worldwide for her missionary work in India received on March 1 the 500,000 Swiss-franc (\$ 300,000) Balzan international prize for promoting peace and brotherhood among peoples.

The prize of the Italian-Swiss foundation is awarded every three years by an international jury.

PLACES

Java: in Indonesia, was in the news when on February 21 clouds of poison gas and smouldering lava from a volcanic eruption killed about 175 persons and injured 1,000 in the villages in central Java.

Kanjhawala: is a village near Delhi where on March 4 confrontation between the Government and the farmers represented by the All-India Kisan Sangharsh Samiti took a serious turn when about 50,000 farmers from Delhi and the neighbouring States held a "sarvkhap panchayat" here and decided that they would not pay the dues, including land revenue, to the Government until their demands for the betterment of their lot were accepted.

Kampuchea: is the new name of Cambodia.

Lang Son: is the key provincial capital of Lang Son Shich in Vietnam which was encircled by the Chinese troops in the recent China-Vietnam war. Vietnam claimed to have killed about 2,500 Chinese troops here.

Lang Son is known as historical gateway to China.

St Lucia: is the small Caribbean island which became independent on February 21 after 165 years of British rule. St Lucia's struggle for independence has been totally non-violent.

Like the other Associated States of the Caribbean, this small eastern island has been dependent on Britain since 1967 only in the spheres of foreign affairs and defence. The negotiations for complete independence have been long drawn out.

Though St Lucia became independent after 12 years of semi-autonomy under British protection, it seems set for prosperity. A U.S. multinational is building an oil transshipment terminal on the island and a large free port zone, and may build an oil refinery as well. This \$ 150 million development project is the biggest in Windward and Leeward islands.

St Lucia also has a small industrial sector, though that is still the largest in the island group which was traditionally depended on agriculture. In 1976 the island exported half of its manufactures. Besides, the island has geothermal energy reserves in the south. St Lucia is pro-CARICOM (Caribbean Economic Community) and has warm relations with the nearest continental power, Venezuela.

SPACE RESEARCH

Satellite to test ozone layer: The U.S.A. on February 18 launched a satellite into earth orbit to test the vital ozone layer which filters the sun's ultra violet rays.

X-ray observing satellite: Japan placed into orbit a scientific satellite on February 21 to observe X-rays coming off newly emerging stars, neutron star,

and super gravity "black holes" born of star implosions.

The satellite was named "Hakucho" (swan) after the Cygnus or the swan, one of the constellations it will look at, and is more refined than the six X-ray stellar observing satellites previously launched by other countries, including two by the United States.

Voyager-I starts exploring Jupiter: The U.S. space probe Voyager-I, hurtling through space at one million kilometres a day, began its Jupiter exploration mission early in March, sending back extremely revealing pictures, as reported by NASA. The Voyager made its closest approach to the giant planet (Jupiter) on March 5 and encountered intense radiation as it sent pictures back to earth. It amazed scientists with evidence that a seething ring of ionized gas above the planet is 10 times hotter than expected.

Voyager-I and -II are the two unmanned space ships which were launched in August-September, 1977 on a journey to explore the far reaches of the solar system and to carry messages to any other forms of life that may exist in space.

While Voyager-I is to fly to Jupiter and Saturn before it gets lost among the stars, Voyager-II will not only fly by Jupiter and Saturn, but also Uranus and Neptune. It will cover 4.5 billion kilometres, about 30 times the distance of earth from the sun, within the next 13 years—to become the longest space voyage launched to date.

Soyuz-32: The Soviet Union launched Soyuz-32—a manned spaceship on February 25. The two Soviet cosmonauts aboard the space ship—Vladimir Lyakhov and Valery Ryumin, boarded the Salyut-6 orbiting research station on February 27 after a successful docking operation.

On March 14, an unmanned cargo spacecraft (automatic space freighter) called *Progress-5* docked with Salyut-6. It delivered fuel, equipment and supplies for Salyut crewmen.

MISCELLANY

First U.S. Ambassador to China: The U.S. Senate confirmed on February 26 the name of Mr Leonard Woodcock as President Carter's choice to become the U.S. Ambassador to China since 1949. The 82-9 vote followed a brief unsuccessful floor protest by Senate Republicans against Mr Carter's China policies.

Earth crust thicker in Himalayas: Soviet and Indian scientists working on the Pamir-Himalaya project—part of the international geo-dynamic project—have found that in the eastern and central Himalayas the thickness of earth's crust reaches 80 kilometres.

They have also discovered that the distance from the earth's crust to its mantle varies from five km to 10 km under the ocean and from 30 km to 50 km on the continent and that the earth's crust in the northern and central Pamirs is 75 km thick.

These are the conclusions reached by Mr I.K. Khamrabayev, a member of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences and director of the Institute of Geology and Geophysics of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences which is processing the results of the study.

The study reveals that subterranean tremors are caused by simultaneously detonated explosions on the Naga Parbat and Himalaya ranges.

The scientists employed the seismic probing method to study the earth's crust and its mantle. They have accurately recorded the speed at which the waves

produced by natural as well as explosion-triggered earthquakes moved.

This, the scientists say, has enabled them to know the structure of the planet down to the depth of 300 km.

Experiments have also established that some mountains in central Asia and the Himalayas which are perennially covered with snow have the highest temperature within.

Regional co-operation in nuclear research: India is co-operating with a number of Asian countries including Pakistan and Bangladesh, in a series of nuclear research projects.

These projects are being executed under the regional co-operation agreement formulated under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In all the projects India is making an important contribution since the country has already built up considerable expertise and experience in all aspects of nuclear research.

One of these projects is aimed at improving domestic buffalo production using nuclear techniques. The improvement is being sought to be brought about through the solution of nutritional reproductive and other problems.

The benefits of this research will be increased production of milk, meat, draught power and leather. The countries co-operating with India in this project are Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand. More countries are expected to join.

The objective of another research project is to co-ordinate studies on the application of nuclear techniques for the preservation of fish and fishery products, thereby improving the protein supply available to developing member countries in the region. The project has already shown that low doses of radia-

tion coupled with ice handling can double or triple the market life of sea-food which would otherwise spoil rapidly unless frozen.

Moreover, blanched, semi-cooked and cooked seafood sealed in poly-ethylenic bags can be stored at room temperature for long periods after radiation treatment. Also participating in the project are Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand.

A project on health-related environmental research using the nuclear techniques has also been started. The purpose of the project is to discover groups or even individuals with elevated levels of contaminants and to correlate it to environmental

pollution. Different nuclear techniques will be applied using both reactors and accelerators. Besides India, the participants are Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand and the Republic of Korea.

A fourth co-operative research project involves the improvement of grain legume production in South-East Asia using nuclear techniques. Its main objective is to provide sufficient quantity and quality of an important protein and calorie source to the people of South-East Asia. The countries involved in the project include Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and Pakistan.

SPORTS

(Contd. from page 610)

National Championships: Manjit Dua of Delhi retained the men's crown in the 40th National Table Tennis Championships when he defeated V. Chandrasekhar of Tamil Nadu in the final at Udaipur on March 5. He completed a grand treble by annexing the men's doubles and the mixed doubles titles.

After losing the first two games, Railways' Shailaja Salokhe staged a grand recovery and ousted the top-seed, Indu Puri, to retain the women's title.

RESULTS

Men's singles: Manjit Dua (Delhi) beat V. Chandrasekhar (Tamil Nadu), 21-14, 16-21, 23-21, 21-15.

Women's singles: Shailaja Salokhe (Railways) beat Indu Puri (Railways), 13-21, 21-23, 21-16, 21-13, 21-13.

Men's doubles: Manjit Dua and Manmeet Singh (Delhi) beat V. Chandrasekhar and R. Hari (Tamil Nadu), 21-19, 21-15.

Women's doubles: Rita Jain (Railways) and Nandini Kulkarni (Maharashtra) beat Kiran Wardekar and Kalavathi Seetharam (Maharashtra) 21-12, 21-16.

Mixed doubles: Manjit Dua (Delhi) and Kiran Wardekar (Maharashtra) beat Vilas Menon and Shailaja Salokhe (Railways), 21-13, 20-22, 21-13.

Boys' singles: S. Sriram (Maharashtra) beat Parthiv Vyas (Delhi), 18-21, 21-10, 21-14, 17-21, 21-18.

Girls' singles: Madalisa Hazarika (Assam) beat Sharda Sharma (Rajasthan), 21-11, 21-15, 22-20.

TEAM EVENTS

Men: Tamil Nadu beat Maharashtra, 5-2.

Women: Railways beat Assam, 3-0.

Boys: Delhi beat Assam, 3-0.

Girls: Assam beat Madhya Pradesh, 3-0.

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of Selected Words used in this Issue)

abjure: to renounce on oath or solemnly; to recant; to repudiate.

abysmal: bottomless; unfathomable; very deep.

alibi: an excuse for failure.

altruistic: the principle of living and acting for the interest of others.

anchorite: a man or woman who has withdrawn from the world, especially for religious reasons; a recluse.

aroma: a spicy fragrance flavour or peculiar charm.

ascetic: one who rigidly denies himself ordinary bodily gratification for conscience sake; one who aims to compass holiness through mortification of the flesh; a strict hermit; one who lives a life of austerity.

austerity: quality of being austere; severity of manners or life; severe simplicity of style, dress or habits.

blatant: clamorous; (loosely) flagrant.

bloke: a man; the commander.

callous: hardened; unfeeling.

connive: to wink; to take no notice; to have a private understanding; to converge.

constrain: to urge with irresistible power; to bring about by force; to force, compel; to distress; to violate; to confine; to limit; to restrict by a condition.

cucumber: a creeping plant.

derision: act of deriding; mockery; a laughingstock.

emasculate: to deprive of the properties of a male; to deprive of masculine vigour; to render effeminate.

endogenous: increasing by internal growth; formed within.

epoch: a point of time fixed or made remarkable by some great event from which dates are reckoned; the particular time, used as a point of reference, at which the data had the values in question; an age, geological, historical, or other.

felicity: happiness; delight; a blessing; a happy event; a happiness of expression.

fret: to eat into; to eat out; to corrode; to wear away by rubbing; to disturb; to irritate.

frugal: economical in the use of means; sparing; thrifty.

furor: a craze; wild enthusiasm; wild excitement.

grandiose: grand or imposing; bombastic.

grovel: to crawl on the earth, esp. in abject fear, etc.; to be base or abject.

ignominy: loss of good name; public disgrace; infamy.

ilk: same - of that same, that is, of the estate of the same name as the family—often used ignorantly for "of that kind".

impinge: to strike; to encroach.

inaction: exhaustion from want of food.

inscrutable: that cannot be scrutinised or searched into and understood; inexplicable.

insinuation: stealing on the confidence.

invulnerable: that must not be profaned; that cannot be injured.

knave: a boy; a serving boy; a false; deceitful fellow; a playing-card bearing the picture of a servant or soldier.

leviathan: a water animal, apparently a crocodile; a huge sea monster; anything of huge size, esp. a ship or a man.

lingua franca: common language.

nepotism: undue patronage to one's relations.

nuance: delicate degree or shade of difference.

oligarchy: government by a small exclusive class; a state so governed; a small body of men who have the supreme power of a state in their hands.

orchestration: instrumentation.

ostentation: act of showing; display to draw attention or admiration; boasting.

panacea: a universal medicine; a healing plant vaguely indicated.

panorama: a wide or complete view.

passing the buck: to shift the responsibility to some one else.

pervasiveness: tending or having power to pass through.

platitude: an empty remark made as if it were important.

prosaic: like prose; un-poetical; matter-of-fact; commonplace; dull.

protagonist: the chief actor, character, or combatant; (loosely) a champion, advocate.

qualms (of conscience): an access of faintness or sickness; a sickly feeling; an uneasiness, as of conscience.

quibble: an evasive turning away from the point in question into matters irrelevant; merely verbal or insignificant.

raison d'être: reason for existence.

rampant: rearing; standing in profile, on the left hind-leg; high-spirited; fierce; unrestrained; unchecked in growth or prevalence.

recrimination: act of accusing in return; counter-charge.

reprisal: seizure in relation; an act of retaliation; recapture; compensation.

revile: to assail with bitter abuse—to utter revilings.

sanguine: blood-red; bloody; of the complexion or temperament in which blood was supposed to predominate over the other humours; hence ardent, confident and inclined to hopefulness abounding in blood.

savage: in a state of nature; wild; uncivilised; ferocious; furious; an enraged horse or other animal; a human being in a wild-state; a brutal, fierce, or cruel person.

scoff: mockery; a jibe, jeer; an object of derision.

snarler: an ill-natured growling sound; a snarling.

sneakiness: mean crouching; secret; underhand; not openly avowed; lurking under other feelings.

snuggle: to nestle—to hug close; to wrap close.

specious: beautiful; showy; looking well at first side; fair-showing.

struts: to bulge; protrude; to flaunt; to stand stiffly upright; to walk stiffly in vanity or self importance.

(Contd. on page 616)

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected etc.

Sir Humphrey Waldock: of Britain elected President of the International Court of Justice.

Col. Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani: Appointed Prime Minister of Algeria.

Banarsi Das: Elected Chief Minister of U.P.

Gondker Narayana Rao: Appointed Ambassador of India to Mongolia.

Leonard Woodcock: Appointed Ambassador of U.S. to China.

Vice-Admiral Swaraj Parakash: Chief of personnel, appointed Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff.

Mr Justice Engalaguppa Seetharamiah Venkataramiah: A judge of the Karnataka High Court appointed judge of the Supreme Court.

Distinguished Visitors

Warren Christopher: U.S. Deputy Secretary of State.

Mahmoud Hadid: Speaker of the People's Council of Syria.

A. Kosygin: Prime Minister of U.S.S.R.

C.D. Msuya: Industry Minister of Tanzania.

Died

Jairamdas Daulatram: Former Governor of Assam and Union Minister.

Raghunath Keshav Khadilkar: Former Union Minister and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha.

Mrs Victoria Ocampo: A noted poet and Rabindranath Tagore's host during his sojourn in Argentina.

G.P. Rajaratnam: An eminent Kannada writer.

(The UCD, headed by the premier, Mr Adolfo Suarez, wins 169 of the 350 seats in the house of deputies, four more than in the first democratic parliamentary election in Spain in 1977 after dictator Francisco Franco's death.)

3—China decides to call for cease-fire in its war against Vietnam after occupying the strategic Vietnamese border city of Lang Son.

5—China announces withdrawal of its troops from Vietnam saying they have attained the goals set for them since their thrust southward across the border on February 17.

9—The Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Alexei Kosygin visits India.

10—Soviet Union agrees to give 600,000 tonnes of additional crude oil in exchange of Indian rice to help this country to meet the oil shortage of Iranian deliveries.

12—Pakistan quits the Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO) saying the defence alliance had lost its relevance to the country's security.

—CWC breaks off unity talks with Congress (I).

15—India and USSR ask China to pull out of Vietnam.

—CENTO wrecked as Turkey joins Iran and Pakistan in pulling out of it.

16—31.45 crore tax relief in Budget proposals announced.

EVENTS

FEBRUARY

19—Vietnam and Kampuchea (Cambodia) sign a treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation.

—President Ziaur Rahman's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) secures two-thirds majority in the country's second parliamentary elections.

20—President Sanjiva Reddy calls upon China to quit Vietnam.

21—A new 13-member Meghalaya council of ministers headed by Mr D.D. Pugh sworn in.

22—India warns USA that re-arming of Pakistan will create tension in the region.

26—The former Information and Broadcasting Minister, V.C. Shukla, and his co-accused, Sanjay Gandhi, two key Emergency figures, convicted in the

"Kissa Kursi Ka" case of all the offences for which they were tried; each sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

28—Chinese and Vietnamese forces reported to be regrouping around Vietnam's key border provincial capital of Lang Son.

—Banarsi Das sworn in as Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

—Sweeping tax proposals affecting nearly all aspects of urban life and seeking to net a massive Rs. 665 crores, proposed in the Central Budget for 1979-80.

MARCH

1—Indo-US differences on nuclear fuel supply unresolved.

2—The ruling Spanish Union of the Democratic Centre (UCD) emerges as the winner of general election.

VOCABULARY

(Contd. from page 615)

surly: haughty; morose; gruff and grumpy; rough and gloomy; refractory.

swap: to strike; to reap close; to slam; to slap down; to strike (as a bargain); to give in exchange; to barter.

sycophancy: the behaviour of a common informer, a servile flatterer; mean tale-bearing obsequious flattery; servility.

throes: a spasm; a pang; esp. a birth-pang.

travesty: disguise; burlesque.

unsavoury: tasteless; of ill savour; offensive.

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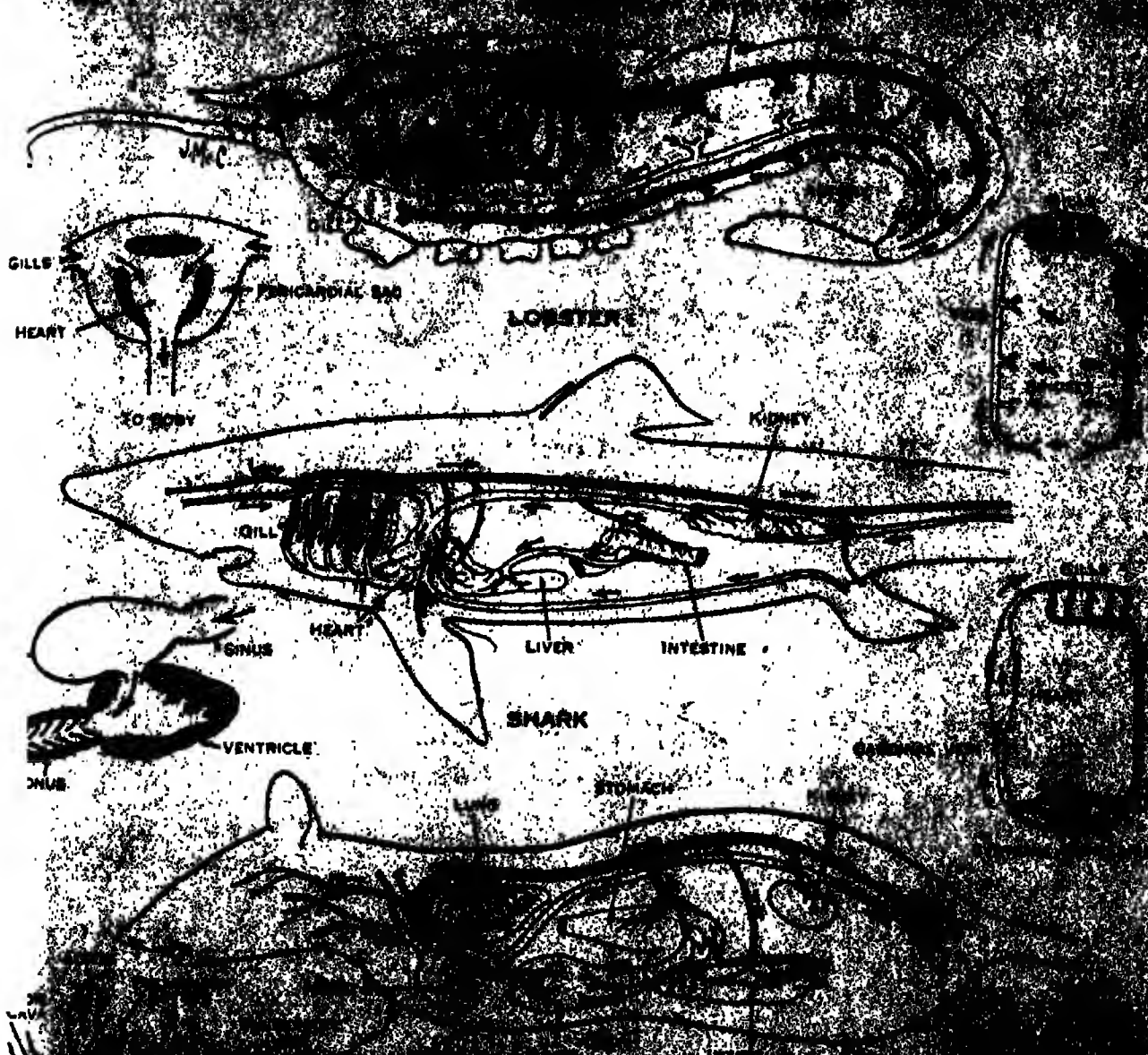
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Letter from the Editor

Self-Confidence

Dear Reader,

"Give me a standing place", said Archimedes, "and I will move the world." Fields are won by those who believe in winning and confidence is that feeling by which the mind embarks in great and honourable courses with a sure hope and trust in itself.

Self-trust is the essence of heroism—the first secret of success, says Emerson. Those who believe that they are exclusively in the right are generally those who achieve something.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Editor

A dark cloud on World Horizon

A perplexing chain of events has created a potentially dangerous phenomenon on world horizon. The menace, if it may be so called, is the reversion to religious fanaticism in the shape of an Islamic revival over a large part of West Asia and East Asia inhabited by Muslims and led by veterans who threaten to take their countries back to the medieval times.

Until a few months ago, Saudi Arabia was perhaps the only country where rigid Islamic laws were enforced; limbs were cut off for petty offences and persons guilty of certain offences such as adultery were stoned to death. Then came General Zia-ul-Haque on the Pakistan scene after ousting Mr Z.A. Bhutto in a coup in July, 1977. He turned Pakistan into an Islamic Republic; introduced whipping and lashing in public for even ordinary offences, ordered the cutting off of hands and arms for thefts and similar crimes. To all intents and purposes, there has been in Pakistan a rule of terror and a throttling of democratic tendencies by an Islamic-oriented administration.

Bangladesh is also an Islamic Republic, but it is progressive in many ways, with Gen Ziaur Rehman, the President, holding general elections and establishing, even if in name, a Parliamentary system of Government and allowing political activity. India thus had two Islamic republics on her borders; this meant a setback to secular trends, a narrow outlook and resurgence of obsolete trends which mark a reversal of modern civilisations in those territories.

The third major country to establish an Islamic Republic with a vengeance is Iran, where Ayatollah Khomeini, the religious head now holding the reins of Government in his hands, seems determined to make his country truly Islamic in character. All the laws and regulations are being reoriented to give them the feudal, orthodox character, the aim being to discourage, with force where necessary, all Western trends which were introduced by the Shah of Iran during his long rule. The most repulsive form of such feudal rule is the large number of executions of leaders, both political and military, who were suspected of being the Shah's supporters. When Khomeini ousted

the Shah early this year it was thought that Iran had been liberated from tyranny and terror; actually it seems to be nothing of the kind. Even the Shah did not execute people in such a heartless manner. After a couple of hours, and even without giving any opportunity worth the name, the accused are shot by a firing squad as callously as a mad murderer would shoot a rival. In the first flush of a memorable victory, a few such executions were considered inevitable, but the executions are continuing and there seems to be no end to this ruthless process smacking of the worst form of tyranny. As the tragic end of A.A. Hoveyda, who remained Premier of Iran for many years, shows the trials are secret and the persons are doomed even before they can say anything in defence. The process is simple: call a person a traitor and have him shot. About 100 such executions have already been reported from Iran.

In Pakistan a major tragedy took place on April 4 with the hanging of Mr Bhutto under orders of Gen Zia who rejected all appeals for clemency in order to wreak vengeance on a political rival. Mr Bhutto's execution was a foul deed which caused revulsion against Islamic rule all over the world. Turkey, Egypt, Sudan, Libya and some other countries are also affected by the new orthodoxy.

Now there are reports that in Indonesia, too, there is a strong movement for making the country truly Islamic. Iran's shadow is proving ominous, and an Islamic revolution is being widely feared. There is an upsurge in the activities of the Jihad body—the Islamic Holy War Command—in Indonesia's most populous islands of Java and Sumatra.

Thus there is a deep moral and intellectual crisis in the Muslim world. The form of government a nation chooses is, in essence, its own lookout, but the emergence of feudalism and theocracy are bound to affect other countries and international relations generally. It would mean a setback to democracy and to the concepts of basic human rights and freedoms for which the U.N. has been fighting for three decades and more. It means the negation of all the values civilised humanity now cherishes. Is the world set for a return to the Middle Ages after reaching the last quarter of the 20th century?

Current National Affairs

India's China Policy

India's understanding of China is to be determined by the extent to which that country was willing to reconcile its intense nationalism with international constraints and obligations. India's China policy was thus defined by Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee at a national seminar, held in Delhi on March 31, to discuss "Contemporary China and Japan".

Mr Vajpayee said China, with its massive military strength and daunting dimensions, has been something of a strategic riddle to its neighbours and others in Asia.

"China's recent behaviour in Indo-China had served only to reinforce such apprehensions", Mr Vajpayee noted. There were others who believed that assumption of coercive Chinese diplomacy was "less threatening and less disrupting" than the prospect of a modernized economic giant driving smaller and less resourceful Asian nations out of the markets of the world.

It was of "great importance" for India to try and understand the precise nature of the changes taking place in China since the passing from the scene of Mao Tse-tung. It brought to the fore many questions like: What do these changes portend for China itself? What impact would these changes have on China's external policies?

The question was what would India's course be in developing relations with China

within the parameters of India's domestic and external policies. There was a growing body of opinion which was no longer pessimistic about the success of the Indian model of development.

"The determinant of our national perception of that country, the most populous of Asia and indeed the world, would be China's own view of the world, the attitudes and policies it adopts towards its neighbours and its responses to the global urge for co-operation and inter-dependence."

India's Dismal Air Record

According to data disclosed by the Air Marshal Jafar Zaheer, Director-General of Civil Aviation, on April 10, while the fatality rate in the world (as recorded by the ICAO) was going down, in India it was rising, the present rate being $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 times the world average!

Moreover, it has been found that the accident rate in the air in India is about 10 times that of the U.S.A. The fact that in a major Middle East country the rate was 75 per cent as high as in Australia is poor consolation.

The causes for the high accident rate in India are several. There is full awareness at the Governmental level and funds are also made available. Skilled personnel for flights are also available. But there is a lack of will to take prompt decisions to implement the schemes already drawn up. Funds were

India's China Policy

India's Dismal Air Record

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Role of Trade and Industry

Population Policy Programme

allocated in the past for various schemes but the Directorate of Civil Aviation has not utilised them. There is inadequate research; there is a dearth of experts of the required standard and of the necessary equipment needed to carry on systematic research and development.

Another shortcoming is in respect of aeronautical inspection. There is a paucity of aircraft inspectors who could carry on expert inspection of aircraft. Suitable personnel should be released by the airlines for aircraft inspection work. There is also a lack of rapport between the flight deck crew and the ground staff in the airlines. The pilots and the ground crew, unfortunately, worked in air-tight compartments in civil airlines. This should be speedily remedied.

There is also the absence of an independent agency to examine the flight deck crew of airlines. The maintenance standards of the operators are also far from satisfactory. Improved communication, landing aids and air traffic services are also needed.

The Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Mr P. Kaushik, has asked the experts to recommend to the Government how the proposed third-level operation (short-distance air services) to supplement the main services could be possible without endangering air safety. Such services are deemed desirable to meet the social, economic and political needs of the country. He has in mind the numerous small aircraft (used almost all over the world) which can use unpaved air strips and runways. Government was worried about the frequent disruption of services.

Concentration of Economic Power

The Janata Party's policy to put a curb on the concentra-

tion of economic power by checking the growth of large business houses has not made much headway owing to the differences of opinion among the spokesmen of various interests. There is a split in the nine-member committee, appointed by the National Executive of the party, to find ways and means of reducing the assets and economic power of large industrial houses. The Committee has not yet found a solution to the problem. Mr George Fernandes, Union Minister for Industry, has been pressing for a scheme to cut the giant Houses to size and nationalise more industries, such as aluminium, steel and automobiles.

Perhaps the most authentic and impartial assessment of the position has been given by Dr Raj Krishna, member of the Planning Commission. He has called for a freeze on the assets of the big Houses if they exceed the ceiling of Rs. 100 crores at the 1976 price level. He has suggested that assets over Rs. 20 crores should attract the provisions of the M.R.T.P.C. (Anti-Monopoly) Act). The ceiling on assets should be Rs. 100 crores. (Now 25 Houses have such assets.)

He is of the firm view that Houses having higher assets should not be given fresh licences, but he is against any effort to dismantle any of the big Houses because such an operation will cause an unacceptable industrial and economic dislocation. He is also of the view that his recommendations, if accepted, should apply prospectively, not retrospectively. He has sought the discontinuance of concessions now being made in favour of core sector investment or export-oriented or backward area investments by large industrial Houses.

Defending his thesis for a ceiling of Rs. 100 crores on the

assets of any House, he said that otherwise there would be a handful of controlling groups in which economic power would be concentrated and they would exploit workers, input suppliers and output consumers.

Those who strongly favour such curbs quote Article 39 of the Constitution which lays down that the State should reduce the concentration of the means of production.

Proposal for Development Bank

The establishment of a bank for the development of small-scale industries in the country, to follow up the Government of India's industrial policy, has been suggested by the official committee set up by the Central Government to study the procedures relating to the small-scale sector. The Committee has also recommended the replacement of the present capital subsidy system by employment subsidy for industrial units in backward areas.

The 11-member committee, which was appointed last October and which submitted its report in the second week of April, 1979, has also recommended the creation of a separate department in the Union Ministry for Industry to prescribe national policies regarding the growth and development of the small-scale sector. It has suggested the adoption by the Government of an integrated strategy for the small-scale sector instead of taking *ad hoc* measures from time to time.

The other notable suggestions made by the Committee are: rigorous implementation of both Central and State policy measures for small-scale units and introduction of an insurance scheme for the sick units.

As for a definition of small units, the Committee has suggested that all ancillary units

with plant and machinery valued up to Rs. 15 lakhs should be recognised as small-scale units. Besides, a bureau for small industry intelligence should be set up for the benefit of the small-scale sector. There should be compulsory registration for all units; such registration for tiny units should be introduced in a phased manner.

The raw material requirements of the small-scale units should be met in full. The Committee also urged that the purchases of the products of small units by Government agencies, including the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals, should be increased manifold.

Foreign Money Scandal

A scandal about the acceptance of foreign money by Indian leaders burst on the Delhi scene on April 11 with the disclosure made by Mr Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former U.S. Ambassador in India, that large sums of money were given to Mrs Indira Gandhi and the Congress Party by his Government to fight elections so as to keep the Communists out of the picture, especially in Kerala and West Bengal.

In a controversial book "A Dangerous Place", recently published, Mr Moynihan stated that U.S. money was given to Mrs Gandhi on two occasions for "political work", especially during the 1967 elections in India. Moreover, it has been disclosed that on both occasions the request for money came from the Indian leaders themselves; so it was not a case (if Mr Moynihan is to be believed) of U.S. agencies such as the CIA going about offering money, secretly or otherwise. In 1967 Mrs Gandhi was the Prime Minister and on the earlier occasion when money was given (in 1959) she was the President of the Congress Party. It was dur-

ing her term as Congress President that the Communists were ousted from power in Kerala with the dismissal of the C.P. (M) Ministry by the Centre—a highly controversial act.

Mrs Gandhi has firmly and unequivocally denied the allegations. "This is part of a conspiracy", she said. There may be doubts about the authenticity of Mr Moynihan's allegations, but the broader issue of the role of foreign money in Indian politics has again come to the fore. The stink thus created remains.

Mr Moynihan also made some interesting prophecies. He said that long ago he had forecast that the day was not far off when Mrs Gandhi would try to destroy her opposition and that, in doing so, she would destroy the Indian democracy. Thus he had forecast that Indian democracy was in grave danger. And it was Mrs Gandhi, he said, who was running the economy in the rigid manner of State Socialism. The consequent economic decline was creating ever-growing opposition, not least from responsible Indians who understood the sources of the decline.

Foreign Policy Exposition

The main features of India's foreign policy were explained by the External Affairs Minister, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, in the Lok Sabha on April 2, in his reply to the prolonged debate on the demands for grants for his Ministry. Several doubts were expressed by M.P.s about certain aspects of foreign policy, and Mr Vajpayee explained the recent actions taken by the Government in regard to China, Vietnam, Kampuchea, the USA and the Soviet Union in particular.

Dispelling the doubts that the recent changes implied a shift in foreign policy, he said

the Government's policy was based on "continuity with change—which was the guiding principle of the Janata Government's policy." Where continuity is necessary, the old policy is adopted, but where a change is desirable in the national interest, it is made to meet every situation.

This principle and this line are in accordance with the policy enunciated by Jawaharlal Nehru who, in 1964, specifically mentioned the need for "adjustments in India's policy of non-alignment in the light of the changed situation". Certain changes in the country's foreign policy have become necessary because the world is no longer bi-polar but is now polycentric.

Fortunately, there has always been a national consensus on foreign policy, with almost all political parties agreeing on the broad principles. It would be suicidal to destroy or disown this national consensus because of domestic politics.

All charges by Opposition M.P.s that there has been a "tilt" in the country's foreign policy have been refuted by the Government. Referring to Indo-U.S. and Indo-Soviet ties, he said every relationship stood on its own footing and had its own quality. It is also the Government's policy not to allow established friendships to come in the way of normalisation of relations with other countries. This applies to the effort to normalise relations with China even while maintaining the traditional friendship with the Soviet Union.

In the joint communique issued after Mr Morarji Desai's visit to the Soviet Union last winter, it was clearly stated that India's relations with that country would not come in the way of India normalising relations with others.

India stands committed to the principles of genuine non-

alignment which have become even more relevance now. India is now playing a constructive and active role in the movement. The policy of good neighbourly relations was yielding fruit. India's relations with the U.S.A. have also improved. Mr Vajpayee has no regrets over his abortive China visit.

Resources for Sixth Plan

While the ambitious Sixth Plan, for which the outlay has been tentatively fixed at Rs. 1,17,240 crores, requires the mobilisation of plentiful additional resources, the States have, as usual, fallen way behind the mobilisation targets set by the Planning Commission. Taxation is a politically inconvenient weapon, and the various State Governments are naturally reluctant to resort to it, even though there is urgent need to augment Government revenue for development purposes.

In a circular sent to the Chief Ministers late in March, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Charan Singh, has urged the States to make all-out efforts to achieve the target of Rs. 4,000 crores set for them in the draft Sixth Plan. The Finance Minister has expressed his unhappiness over the resources mobilisation effort so far put in by the States. Stressing the need for fulfilling the Plan targets, he has urged the States to try to conserve resources through economy, efficiency and better financial management.

It has also been pointed out that the institutional and administrative arrangements for implementation of the Plan need to be greatly improved and the financial management of State Governments put on a sound footing. Many of the States expect, as usual, that the Centre would come to their rescue whenever they fall short of finances. But it has been made clear that the Centre is in no

position to transfer more resources to the States.

The Seventh Finance Commission recommended a larger transfer of finances to the States, with the result that 14 States were left with substantial surpluses amounting to Rs. 13,600 crores. Besides, grants-in-aid totally Rs. 437 crores were recommended for upgrading the standard of administration. There is also a provision granting debt relief over five years which is estimated to cost Rs. 2,156 crores. For this reason also, the Centre has pointed out, it is essential to manage the surpluses with care and plough back the money for development purposes and to keep non-Plan expenditure strictly under check.

The Centre has also taken an exception to the rapid enlargement of administrative staff in the States and multiplication of agencies in recent years which have merely inflated the expenditure without bringing in any net gain to the States.

It may be recalled that during 1978-79 the Centre extended special loans to the States to enable them to clear their opening deficits. The Union Finance Minister's letter has also urged the State Governments not to generate Budget deficit and not to resort to unauthorised overdrafts. The States were required to realise their heavy responsibility for implementing project plans during the Sixth Plan period.

The letter said that since an estimated Rs. 835 crores representing the committed expenditure in regard to the Fifth Plan schemes would be transferred to the non-Plan budget in 1979-80, there would be a 15 per cent increase in the developmental expenditure during the year, compared to 1978-79. The Centre was separately considering making adjustments to give effect to the National Develop-

ment Council's recommendations regarding Centrally-sponsored schemes.

India's Growth Rate

While growth rates are not always a sure index of genuine economic development, it has been estimated that the 1978-79 growth rate of the economy, as estimated by the Planning Commission, is over 4.7 per cent, which is higher than the 4 per cent visualised by the authorities earlier. In fact, the Plan assumed that there would be a 1.5 per cent to 2 per cent rise in agricultural production and about 7 per cent increase in the industrial sector. Actually the agricultural production target has been achieved and may even be higher than the original estimates; industrial production has been better and is now estimated to be slightly over 8 per cent.

According to official estimates the Annual Plan for 1978-79—the first year of the Sixth Plan and regarded by the Planning Commission to be a transition from the Fifth Plan which was abruptly ended a year before its turn—is supposed to have provided a firm basis for growth for the Sixth Plan period. There was a 7.24 per cent increase in the Gross National Product in 1977-78, compared to the increase of only 1.6 per cent in the previous year which was made possible by the impressive recovery in agriculture by 10.7 per cent, compared to a fall of 5.5 per cent in the preceding year.

The average growth rate in the past few years has thus risen from 3.5 per cent to nearly 5 per cent. In 1977-78 there was a fall in the growth rate of industrial production and the index moved up by only 3.9 per cent, compared to 9.5 per cent in the previous year, because of power shortages and labour unrest. It is, however, hoped that there

will be an improvement in both agriculture and industry during 1979-80, especially because agricultural inputs are expected to be higher and some of the constraints on industry have been removed, but power shortages and labour unrest still pose tough problems. Capacity utilisation both in heavy and light industry has picked up and the process is likely to continue during the coming year.

The Planning Commission, however, does not expect any immediate material contribution from new projects, especially because the investments made in the first year were on draft Plan estimates prepared by the previous Government.

The Annual Plan for 1978-79 projects a growth in domestic savings from Rs. 19,498 crores to about Rs. 21,388 crores (9.7 per cent).

Devaluation of the Rupee

With the gradual recovery of the sterling, repeated devaluations of the rupee have become inevitable during the past few months. The latest dose of devaluation of the rupee announced on April 9 meant a downward revision of a little over 2 per cent against the 1.8 per cent devaluation announced on March 13.

The influence of political factors on the value of the currency was confirmed by the recovery of the pound sterling ever since the announcement of the next British election on May 3, following the resignation of the Labour Government headed by Mr James Callaghan, as a result of a narrow defeat in the House of Commons. The widespread belief is that the Conservatives will win. Somehow the currency and the share markets have greater confidence in the Conservatives.

For the past few years the external value of the rupee has

been linked with a basket of currencies of the world's major countries with which India has commercial relations, though the value is expressed in pound sterling.

The dollar, however, has been falling in relation to the sterling and other currencies. The consequent effect on Indian exports and imports has to be noted. The value of most of these transactions is expressed in terms of the dollar. This fact has made frequent changes in the value of the rupee inevitable.

Roughly, a dollar is valued at Rs. 8 and every effort is made to conform to this ratio. The new "middle rate" is Rs. 17.15 per pound sterling as against Rs. 16.80 until recently.

Oil Production mounting

The progress of oil exploration and production in the country has been fairly satisfactory, and the increase in the indigenous output has meant considerable savings in foreign exchange, especially in the wake of the further spurt in the oil prices announced by the OPEC countries a few weeks ago.

According to reports, the OPEC countries may raise their prices further to exploit the worldwide shortages of oil. Every such increase in price means a greater financial burden on the non-oil producing developing countries than on the affluent ones.

According to the latest official estimates, the country's oil output in 1978-79 is about 12.5 million tonnes—about 1.8 million tonnes more than the output in the previous year (1977-78). The break-up of this indigenous production is as follows: Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) fields, 9.6 million tonnes (6.2 million tonnes from onshore sources and 3.4 million tonnes from offshore sources, including Bombay High); Oil

India, 2.8 million tonnes; the Assam Oil Company, 50,000 tonnes.

The provisional figures of crude oil reserves of 310 million tonnes in 1978 indicated an increase of 7 million tonnes over 303 million tonnes in the previous year. The natural gas reserves have increased from 230.45 billion cubic metres in 1977 to 238.74 billion cubic metres in 1978, following further discoveries and certain reassessments.

A new gas field was discovered by the ONGC in the north of the Bassein structure. Though the full potential of this field has not yet been definitely assessed, the prospects are reassuring. Moreover, the potential of the south Bassein gas field has now turned out to be larger than 10 million cubic metres of gas per day assessed earlier.

A notable achievement during the year 1978-79 was the completion, in record time, of the 220-km long sub-sea oil and gas pipelines from Bombay High to Uran. Oil and gas have been flowing through these pipelines since July, 1978.

Another heartening feature is that with the completion of the second part of Phase III of the development of Bombay High, expected by October, 1980, there will be a further increase in the production of oil from this source to about 7 million tonnes per annum.

Future Plans for Sikkim

The Government of India's policy regarding Sikkim was clarified during Mr Morarji Desai's visit to that tiny part of India on April 9. Although Mr Desai was at one time critical of the method adopted by the Congress Government to annex Sikkim, he stated during his visit that there was no question of reversing the decision. Sikkim

was now an integral part of India. The Chogyal was out of the picture for good, and the popular Government in that State was firmly established.

To give a fully democratic base to the Government and to give a chance to the people to express their views a general election will be held in Sikkim by October next. The election will be the first under the Indian Constitution.

The Prime Minister made it clear that the Janata Government was committed to implementing its Constitutional obligations and the process would be expedited. A decision is soon to be taken on certain fundamental issues such as citizenship, abolition of the existing party system of representation in the State Assembly.

The Government of India has rejected the demand of certain groups to raise the strength of the Sikkim Assembly from 32 to 60 to make it equal to that of the Nagaland Assembly, in view of the small size of the Sikkim territory and population.

The Prime Minister also refused to exempt Sikkim from the Central Government's prohibition policy. A suggestion was made that prohibition was unsuited to areas like Sikkim where religion and tradition required liquor to be served and consumed on certain occasions, but Mr Desai said no religion required liquor to be served; the Buddha himself had warned people to guard against liquor. If any Lamas preached the consumption of liquor, they were violating the Buddha's teachings. If, however, there was a certain tradition at certain places in this regard, it had to be changed in the national interest.

Role of Trade and Industry

Although prices have remained stable and inflation remained under control during

the year 1978-79, certain inflationary trends have become noticeable in recent weeks, especially in the wake of the Union Budget presented on February 29 by Mr Charan Singh. For the inflationary trends the Prime Minister Mr Morarji Desai has blamed the industrialists and traders of the country.

While inaugurating the INMAF 1979 (trade fair, arranged by the All-India Manufacturers' Association) Mr Desai warned the business community that unless they mended their ways and attitudes towards the social and economic objectives as outlined by the Janata Government, he would not like to participate in any of the functions arranged by industrialists and traders. He urged that a better sense of duty towards the community should dawn upon the industrialists and traders.

Admitting that the fruits of development had not reached the masses, Mr Morarji Desai sought the co-operation of all sections of the people in the gigantic task of bringing cheer into the lives of the masses and all under-privileged people.

Industrialists, he urged, should go to the rural areas and help improve the lot of the down-trodden and assist in banishing poverty from the villages. If industrialists go to the rural areas, the problem of unemployment would also be solved to a great extent.

On behalf of industry, the President of the All-India Manufacturers' Association urged the Government to seriously consider the promotion of project and turn-key exports through the grant of long-term deferred credits to the buying countries. For this purpose the President of the Association suggested that a grant of Rs. 500 crores should be earmarked annually to industry and certain guide-

lines laid down for its utilisation.

Population Policy Programme

The Population Policy of the Government of India, enunciated in June, 1977, laid stress on the voluntary nature of the population control programme, linking it with the minimum needs and integrating it with health and medical care. An official Working Group on population policy, appointed some months ago, has urged the Planning Commission (in its report submitted on April 12) to finance an immediate programme to create a health and family welfare structure in the States whose performance in respect of family planning has not been satisfactory. The States where less than 15 per cent of the eligible couples are protected are : Bihar, U.P., Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura.

The Working Group has set the goal of a net reproduction rate (NRR) of one by 1996, on an average, and by the turn of the century for all the States. The new family planning programme has two interesting features: one, in a given set of conditions of mortality and fertility a woman should be replaced by just one daughter under a two-child norm; and two, to reach the target of the net production rate of one, the birth rate will have to be brought down to 21 per thousand and the death rate to about 9 per thousand. The existing rates are: births 33 per thousand, and deaths 14 per thousand.

The programme thus implies effective protection to 84 million eligible couples by 1995, from the level of about 24 million couples reported to have been protected in April, 1978. The population projection, as calculated by the Working

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Current International Affairs

Execution of Mr Bhutto

The sub-continent's tragedy of the decade took place at Rawalpindi Jail early on April 4 when Mr Z.A. Bhutto, one of Pakistan's most dynamic personalities was hanged following the refusal of General Zia-ul-Haque, the Pakistani Head of State, to accept the appeals of clemency made to him by world leaders and several Governments. A polished diplomat and a clever, influential, rich politician, Mr Bhutto was hanged like a common criminal and buried near his home in Larkana (Sind) after a virtual pauper's funeral at which Mrs Bhutto and other close relations were not allowed to be present.

The news stunned the world and caused widespread riots in several parts of Pakistan and Kashmir Valley. The anti-Zia demonstrations continued in Pakistan for several days and the army units had to go into action at several places to control the situation.

Mr Bhutto had been sentenced to death in March, 1978, by the Pakistan High Court for hatching a murder conspiracy, and the sentence was confirmed by the Supreme Court in February, 1979, by a 4-3 verdict and again unanimously (in March, 1979), when it rejected a review appeal filed on his behalf. Mr Bhutto himself had refused to make an appeal for mercy to General Zia, for such an appeal, according to Mr Bhutto, would have meant a confession of guilt. Until the last moment he claimed he was innocent.

Ironically enough, it was Bhutto who had promoted General Zia to the rank of Chief of General Staff over the heads of nine other officers.

In July, 1977, General Zia overthrew Bhutto in a military coup; in September the same year Bhutto was arrested for conspiracy to murder one of his political rivals and after that he was in jail until his execution. Gen Zia's ambition knows no limits; he evidently intends to rule Pakistan for a long time. He has announced general elections in Pakistan on November 17, 1979, but doubts are being expressed whether the elections will be held, or, if held, whether these will be free and fair.

Apparently, General Zia had come to the conclusion that Bhutto was an obstacle in his way, that his removal from the scene would alone smash the Bhutto-inspired theory of "Islamic Socialism" and permit the establishment of an Islamic Government modelled on the Saudi Arabia pattern. Perhaps he also feared that if Bhutto remained alive, he might come into power sooner or later and would then wreak vengeance upon him (Zia), have him prosecuted and shot on some charge or the other.

U.S.A. cuts off Aid to Pakistan

On April 6 the U.S. Government suddenly announced its decision to cut off all economic aid to Pakistan. During recent years, the U.S.A. has been giving substantial aid to Pakistan

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whose economy has been in a bad shape. The loss of such foreign aid may cause a crippling blow to that country's economy, especially because it is widely expected that several other Western countries may follow the U.S. example and stop their aid to Pakistan.

Actually, the U.S. Government has considered the cut-off of aid to Pakistan as an option ever since the Pakistan President, General Zia-ul-Haque, told the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, during his recent visit to the subcontinent, that the Pakistani military regime intended to develop nuclear weapons. This virtual defiance of U.S. wishes in this matter, and the adverse reaction against the hanging of Mr Z.A. Bhutto on April 4 despite the mercy appeals made by various Governments all over the world, have probably prompted the decision to stop economic aid.

The U.S. aid figures for the subcontinent in 1978 were: 60 million dollars for India and 80 million dollars for Pakistan. While the U.S. aid to India is merely symbolic and does not make much of a difference, the aid to Pakistan means vital assistance. However, General Zia seems to have come to the conclusion that his country can do without such aid—unless the aid embargo also covers the more complex problem of re-scheduling of Pakistan's foreign debts.

The Pakistan Government has described the U.S. decision to cut off aid as "discriminatory and unfair", especially because it had announced its decision not to manufacture nuclear weapons but merely to acquire nuclear capability. Pakistan has demanded that, logically, similar action should be taken against India which had held a nuclear explosion and had not thrown its nuclear facilities open

to international inspection.

The Pakistan nuclear plant bypasses the agreement reached by the world's leading nuclear powers not to sell any nuclear equipment capable of producing plutonium or enriched uranium to any country. Pakistan has decided to adopt the centrifugal method of separating weapons-grade uranium from natural uranium evolved by URENCO, a consortium of nuclear companies hailing from Britain, West Germany and the Netherlands.

Pakistan set for Nuclear Bomb

India has known for months that Pakistan was developing the nuclear capability necessary for manufacturing nuclear weapons. Recently the Government of India conveyed its concern over the matter to the Government in Islamabad. Assurances that Pakistan was keen on acquiring nuclear technology only for peaceful purposes were promptly given by General Zia-ul-Haque. But reports from the U.S.A. on April 7 confirmed that Pakistan was building a nuclear plant with components and spares bought from Britain, West Germany and certain other countries in an effort to acquire the requisite capability for manufacturing nuclear arms. The plant, which is expected to manufacture weapon-grade uranium, is being set up at Kahuta, 50 km from Rawalpindi.

It is understood that Pakistan does not require enriched uranium (as India does for the Tarapur (Bombay) nuclear power plant) because its only nuclear plant at Karachi uses natural uranium. The Government of General Zia, and also its predecessor, the regime of the late Mr Bhutto, had made earnest efforts to acquire nuclear technology. The negotiations with France were carried on for several years; finally, owing to

U.S. pressure, the proposed deal fell through. The French had promised in July, 1978, to recycle nuclear fuel, but it insisted on the acceptance of full international safeguards, and strict international supervision was assured. The U.S.A. now suspects that Pakistan, after giving up hope of obtaining plutonium by recycling atomic fuel, has now bought centrifugal equipment to enrich radio-active uranium.

The explanations given by Gen Zia to U.S. officials recently were: one, India had already developed nuclear technology of a high order, and, second, that the situation in West Asia was highly unstable following the recent upheavals in Iran and neighbouring Afghanistan. All these developments, it was argued, made it necessary for Pakistan to possess more than the conventional weapons which had become obsolete in the modern world.

Pakistan's nuclear plant is much smaller than India's. The minimum commercial size is 200 mw. India's research reactor is also more elaborate. Actually, Pakistan's nuclear plans have been a bone of contention with the U.S.A. ever since Mr Bhutto signed an agreement with France for the supply and installation of re-processing plant.

On April 8 Pakistan denied any intention to manufacture nuclear weapons. The aim and orientation of the programme were directed "solely towards peaceful ends", an official claimed.

End of Martial Law in Bangladesh

Pakistan and Bangladesh provide two interesting contrasts in the system of Government. While Pakistan has a ruthless military dictator in the shape of Gen Zia-ul-Haque, Bangladesh has a President who

apparently believes in democratic procedures, at least for form's sake. On April 6, President Ziaur Rehman announced, in an address to the nation over the Radio and TV network, the lifting of martial law.

This gesture has been welcomed by all the political parties in that country who hope that it will restore the fundamental rights of the people. Bangladesh has been under martial law since the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman. Thus, in form at any rate, democracy has been restored in that country, a new Parliament has been elected and the leader of the majority party nominated as the Prime Minister.

The Bangladesh Parliament, however, has yet to acquire the genuine traits of sovereignty. Even so, the bitterness and ruthless suppression of the people's rights (which are commonly seen in Pakistan) are not there in Bangladesh. While Bangladesh has already held elections, it is becoming increasingly doubtful whether President Zia of Pakistan will hold the promised elections on November 17. Between now and then, anything might happen which would come in as a handy excuse to the power-obsessed President to postpone the elections indefinitely to retain his hold over the country.

The people are also now optimistic that, by stages, the fundamental rights of the people of Bangladesh will be restored. However, some people in Bangladesh still have doubts that since the President is also functioning as the Army Chief, in effect the country has military rule. An additional cause for popular grievance is that actions taken under martial law regulations, especially against political parties, have been retained and even protected.

President Rehman, has, however, appealed to all politi-

cal parties and leaders, regardless of their party affiliations, to cooperate with the Government to ensure law and order and to inspire people to maintain peace and harmony. Although Bangladesh is an Islamic Republic like Pakistan, President Ziaur Rehman has exhorted the people in a broadcast to keep the interests of the nation above all sectarian and individual interests.

End of Sino-Soviet Treaty

On April 3 the People's Republic of China announced that it did not intend to prolong the Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and China, concluded in 1950 for 30 years. The treaty is due to expire in April, 1980, though it stipulates that it may be renewed with the consent of both parties.

The Treaty was signed at a time when the Chinese people were urgently in need of assistance and support to defend their revolutionary gains and their decision to ensure the success of their tasks of economic and cultural reconstruction. In the early years, Russia gave full support to China in many spheres, including economic and technical; and also helped that country to meet the rebuffs of the Western world. Russia even gave military help in times of need; China was saved from direct attacks by any Western country during the Korean War 1950-53; and during the Taiwan crisis also the Soviet Union extended support to the Republic of China.

According to the Russians, the Chinese unilateral move to end the Treaty does not correspond in the least to Peking leaders' repeated declarations about their readiness to maintain normal inter-State relations with the Soviet Union. It may also be noted that when the

Chinese Government turned down, in 1971, the Soviet Union's proposal (also placed before the United Nations) to conclude a treaty on the non-use of force, and offered in 1973 to sign a treaty of non-aggression, Peking pointed out that there was no need for such treaties when the comprehensive 1950 Treaty stood intact.

The fact is that the situation has changed radically since 1950; China has new allies in the West (the U.S.A. in particular—the very country whom it regarded as its principal enemy all these years). Now China's principal enemy, ironically enough, is the Soviet Union itself.

The strength and effectiveness of the 1950 Treaty lay in the fact that it expressed the unbending will of the two great Communist Powers to live in peace and friendship. Russia now alleges that the end of the Treaty would not be in the interest of the Chinese people themselves.

The Soviet Union has stated that all responsibility for the termination of the 1950 Treaty "rests with the Chinese side". Moscow also alleges "degeneration of the Chinese leadership". But all this attack is in reality on ideological grounds—a sign of the sharp rift between Communist giants holding conflicting beliefs in the theory, practice and emphasis of Communism.

Chinese Modernization Drive

China needs a Socialist or people's democracy, "not bourgeois, individualist democracy", the "People's Daily", the Chinese Communist Party organ, said in a commentary on April 3.

The article appeared after the people in Peking had expressed approval for a ban (disclosed on March 31) on posters, publications and photographs critical of Socialism, proletarian dictatorship, party leader-

ship, Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tse-tung's thoughts. Recently, such wall posters had started appearing; they were regarded for some time as a sign of the new democracy and of the winds change.

The "People's Daily" pointed out that the fundamental interests of the State and the people lie in making China a modernized and strong Socialist country at an early date. It said this represented "the common desire of all the people and the greatest political issue at present."

A number of Chinese wrongly condemned as "bourgeois Rightists" who had left China during the Cultural Revolution and Chairman Mao's strict ideological rule to live abroad, have been informed by post that they have been rehabilitated and they might, therefore, return home without fear of punishment or reprisals of any kind. There has been little response to this invitation so far because of the confused policies of Peking's present leaders and the continuing power tussle among them.

Largest Nuclear Hazard

A most dangerous nuclear leak occurred on March 31 in an atomic reactor on the Three Mile Island nuclear plant near Harrisburg (Pennsylvania, the U.S.A.), causing a great scare among the people thousands of whom fled the area for fear of life-killing radiation. The leakage is believed to have been caused through a combination of human error and mechanical failures. A hydrogen bubble developed in the core of the atomic reactor, and at one time it was feared that it might cause a nuclear disaster. There were risks of ignition, explosion and the release of more radiation. About 50,000 people, including women and children, left the

area. Experts warned that the proportion of oxygen in the mixture, estimated between two and three per cent, was increasing and that if it reached five per cent, an explosion might occur which would be disastrous.

Fortunately, the situation was brought under control and the fleeing population gradually returned to their homes after some days of terror and fright. The terror and the damage to life and limb, especially of women and children who are highly vulnerable to radiation, after the Hiroshima nuclear disaster in 1945 were recalled.

The nuclear leak, although brought under control by expert, caused a setback to the entire nuclear technology for generating power. The nuclear industry already stands demoralised. Several countries have since been having second thoughts on setting up nuclear power plants which could prove most dangerous; even a minor leak can cause a disaster to humanity. Naturally, the Three Mile Island episode caused reactions all over the world and there were numerous expressions of deep concern over the implications of the leak for all nuclear installations.

In Japan a group of environmentalists have launched a signature campaign demanding an immediate halt to the operation of all nuclear power stations and to scrap all nuclear power plants in the country. The myth that nuclear reactors are safe has thus been shattered. Public confidence in nuclear power plants has been shaken, although it is true that accidents will take place however elaborate the safety precautions in a factory or similar establishment. As a cynic said, there were no casualties on Three Mile Island; the only thing that died there was the hopes of the world's nuclear industry.

Iran becomes Islamic Republic

On April 1, Ayatollah Khomeini, the religious leader who has been mainly responsible for ousting the Shah of Iran and bringing about a revolution in the country, proclaimed Iran an Islamic Republic. The referendum held in the country on March 30 resulted in a unanimous verdict in favour of declaring Iran an Islamic Republic as conceived by Khomeini. April 1 has been declared as "Islamic Republic Day".

Khomeini described the referendum as unprecedented in history. It was a vote to establish a government of righteousness and to bury the monarchy in the rubbish dump of history.

There were, however, doubts whether Iran's intelligentsia and all others who abstained from the vote were in favour of an Islamic Republic. It is believed that while the majority of the people do favour an Islamic rule of Khomeini's conception, there are sizable groups who do not favour such orthodoxy and reversion to the fanaticism of the Middle Ages. The Kurds, who constitute a sizable minority, also favour secular rule.

At present, however, Khomeini is the only person who can keep the diverse elements in Iran together. Apart from the Kurds who demand autonomy, there are the Turkomans and the Baluchis on the Iran-Pakistan border are also in open revolt. According to observers, Iran will have to ensure a compromise between tradition and modernity, if its new regime is to last.

The resurgence of Islamic regimes in Asia and West Asia, however, poses a danger to India. India will have a ring of Islamic regimes—Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia. This does not mean that the Muslim States will form a threatening bloc, though they

may coordinate their activities and policies for certain purposes.

Iran's definite turn towards Islam became clear on April 6 when Khomeini declared that all Iranian Government decisions had to be confirmed by his Islamic Revolutionary Council. This meant a setback to Dr Mehdi Bazargan (the Prime Minister) who heads a Provisional Government and is believed to be liberal in views. He also resents the parallel administration run by the Islamic Revolutionary Council. The Council (called in Iran the "Komitch") meets secretly and its 80 members' names have never been announced.

According to Mr A. Entezam, Vice-Premier of Iran, elections to the new Parliament of the Islamic Republic will be held within three months. The Revolutionary Government has decided to award the death sentence for political crimes. A decree on the new Constitution to replace the 1906 Constitution will be issued shortly.

But Dr Bazargan has announced on April 5 that Iran will not play the role of a policeman in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean and will cease all projects connected with that role. The Shah of Iran had outlined an active role for Iran in the region. Several contracts with the U.S.A. for purchase of armaments and modern aircraft have been cancelled.

In the international field, Iran has declared that it intends to maintain good relations with the Soviet Union. The Foreign Minister of Iran, Mr Karim Sanjabi, announced on April 7 that the Government would never allow Iran to be used as a base against Russia. Economic and social relations with other countries will also be developed. During the Shah's regime the Western Powers had a free hand in Iran; now, while

maintaining its independence, Iran would have direct and open relations with all countries, including the West.

The U.S.A., on its part, has been trying to establish good relations with Iran and has sent a new ambassador. But it is generally believed that the new Iranian rulers will not be very cordial towards the U.S. Government because of the active backing President Carter gave to the Shah.

Egypt-Israel Treaty

The Nobel Peace Prize for 1977, which was jointly awarded to President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Mr Menachem Begin of Israel, was finally earned by the two dignitaries when the long-awaited Peace Treaty between the two countries was signed in Washington on March 26. President Carter, who had taken the initiative and had also resorted to the Kissinger-style shuttle diplomacy, staked his reputation on the treaty and was finally successful in effecting a compromise between the two warring countries. President Carter signed the agreement as a witness.

The treaty marks the first step towards the restoration of peace between the Arab world and the Jewish State. The framework for peace in West Asia was agreed upon at Camp David in September, 1978.

The main provisions of the treaty are: (1) The state of war between the parties stands terminated and peace is to be established between them. (2) Israel will withdraw all its forces from the Sinai area behind the international boundary between Egypt and mandated Palestine, and Egypt will exercise full sovereignty over the Sinai. (3) On completion of the withdrawal the two parties will establish normal and friendly relations. (4) The parties will accept the

recognised international boundary without prejudice to the issue of the Gaza strip. (5) The parties agree to recognise each other and respect each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence; they will refrain from the use of force, directly or indirectly. (6) Full diplomatic and economic relations will be established. (7) U.N. personnel will be posted at certain points; and (8) Israeli ships will get free access to and through Suez.

President Sadat has taken a great risk by entering into a bilateral treaty with Israel, ignoring the stiff opposition by the rest of the Arab world.

On March 31 leaders of hardline and moderate Arab nations, in a conference at Baghdad, agreed to enforce a complete economic boycott of Egypt and an eventual diplomatic break in relations with the Sadat regime. About 18 Arab League countries attending the conference and the Palestine Liberation Organisation agreed to stop all Arab aid to Egypt. The economic, political and diplomatic boycott of Egypt will include an oil embargo.

On April 4 the Israeli Parliament approved the treaty; on the same day the Egyptian Cabinet also approved the treaty.

Egypt is now in the U.S. orbit of influence, and has been promised substantial economic and military assistance. Israel is already getting such aid from the U.S.A.

1979—Year of Ban on Poison Gas

The U.N. wants 1979 to be the year when poison gas as a weapon of war is outlawed and banned, but military chiefs appear doubtful about the plan.

It is believed by General Staffs that in any East-West or European conflict, deadly nerve

gases are likely to be used. Britain last year developed a new light-weight carbon cloth suit with a respirator to protect troops against all known chemical and bacteriological agents.

The Soviet effort in the field of chemical warfare (CW) was described, at the end of March, as alarming by General John Pauly, the American commander of NATO air forces in Central Europe. The General told the International Defence Review that in the past ten years the Russians had trained at least 75,000 troops in specialist CW techniques.

A U.N. Assembly resolution in December, 1978, called for a treaty to ban chemical warfare to be negotiated during 1979. In Geneva, Soviet and U.S. negotiators on February 22 resumed protracted meetings on an initiative towards such a ban which they have promised to put before the 28-nation Disarmament Commission.

The problem, however, is to get a treaty which provides for acceptable methods seeing that the other side does not cheat. In fact, a 1925 Geneva agreement does outlaw the use of poison gas. But some Powers wished to retain the capacity to retaliate if an opponent defied the ban. So the 1925 protocol failed to prohibit the making and stockpiling of CW agents—"in effect it was a ban only on first use", a diplomat explained.

A new 1972 convention did ban even the manufacture and stockpiling of more sinister bacteriological (germ warfare) agents.

Experts say there is no evidence that either NATO or the Warsaw Pact has cheated on this, although it is impossible to inspect every phial in every State laboratory. Nobody can ever be sure.

CW agents, like nerve gases, still remain however, in Soviet

armouries, ready to be delivered tactically on the battlefield by bomb-shell or missile.

One stockpiled nerve gas stops the body ridding itself of a chemical called acetylcholine. This is secreted to make the link between nerve endings when messages pass to and from the brain. Protective clothing is claimed to be the answer but it restricts movement and combat efficiency.

While the Powers appeared to take each other on trust when they totally outlawed bacteriological warfare, they are less ready to do this in trying to extend the ban to poison gases. The risks to his own side entailed in unleashing a "germ warfare" attack would probably deter a belligerent from doing so.

Nerve gas is a less risky, tactical battlefield weapon, able to be used so that only a small area is contaminated for a short time. A commander could more easily be tempted to use it. Secondly, while it is accepted that it would be impossible to ensure that nobody possesses stocks of "germ warfare" agents, the West, at least, contends that a system could be devised to inspect a nation's chemical factories, to see that poison gas is not being made.

SALT-II Around the Corner

The United States and the Soviet Union are on the verge of concluding a new SALT treaty that will detect any significant Russian violation and protect U.S. nuclear strength, a top adviser of President Carter disclosed on April 4.

For many months past, the issues pertaining to SALT-II have been pending. The prospect of an early agreement were spoiled when the U.S.A. announced, in December last, its decision to establish diplomatic relations with China. Mr Brezhnev cancelled his proposed

visit to the U.S.A. to finally sign the treaty.

The White House Security Affairs Adviser, Mr Brezezinski, called on Americans to support the new treaty limiting strategic arms—SALT-II—and to avoid linking the issue with American-Soviet confrontation on other issues.

Mr Brezezinski, in remarks prepared for delivery to the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations and released in advance at the White House, said SALT-II was a marked improvement over the first SALT agreement signed in 1972.

For the first time, he said, there would be actual limits on the number of strategic weapons system on both sides.

While rejecting the linkage of SALT with other problems, Mr Brezezinski criticised the Soviet Union for what he said was a reliance chiefly on military power to achieve its objectives.

U.S. officials said they were waiting for the views of the Soviet Government on two remaining issues before they could judge when SALT-II could be completed and arrangements made for a summit between President Carter and President Leonid Brezhnev.

The pending issues are: U.S. objections to Soviet encoding of signals from warheads in missile tests and a definition of what constitutes new types of missiles that may or may not be limited by a treaty.

Mr Brezezinski, while breaking no new ground, opened an aggressive campaign by the Carter Administration to overcome strong Congressional opposition to SALT-II. He expected some difficulties during the Senate's treaty ratification debate.

End of Idi Amin's Dictatorship

The war between the Tanzanians and the arrogant Field-Marshal Idi Amin's forces ended at last on April 11 when Idi Amin was ousted from power, after 8 years of harsh rule, and the rebels with the active assistance of the Tanzanians captured Kampala, the Uganda capital. A spokesman of Idi Amin's opponents announced in the capital: "From today the illegal regime of the traitor Idi Amin is no longer in power." He also announced that the Ugandan National Liberation Front had captured Kampala. Libya, headed by Gadaffi, had extended support to Idi Amin, but few people had any doubts that the Field-Marshal's days were numbered. Idi Amin's successor is Professor Yusufu Lule, 67, who had been voted the Executive Council chairman at a meeting in North Tanzania in March this year.

The liberated and overjoyed people of Uganda hailed the army of President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania who had forced Idi Amin to quit Kampala.

Most of the world had no sympathy at all for Idi Amin, owing to his obnoxious conduct, his repression of his people, his frivolous conduct and his buffoonery. Almost every African felt ashamed of this blood-thirsty leader whom many called mad and insane. His call for an urgent Security Council meeting to consider the situation in his country resulting from the attack by the Tanzanians, supported by Uganda dissidents and rebels, went unheeded. The OAU (Organisation of African Unity) ignored him and refused to assist him when he sought aid to get him out of trouble.

A complicating factor in the Uganda situation is that Dr Milton Obote, whom Idi Amin had overthrown in 1971, is still active, though he has lately lost

some support. Meanwhile, the government formed by Prof Lule is an odd mixture of elements ranging from Marxism to monarchism but it is likely to survive the immediate crisis.

U.N. Verdict on Terrorism

For over six years the United Nations agencies have been debating the question of ensuring effective control on terrorism but without much success because of the conflict of interests and the differences among the various nations over the definition and the appropriate methods of controlling the menace which has been acquiring world-wide dimensions. On April 9, at long last, a breakthrough was achieved in the negotiations when a Committee of the U.N. General Assembly reached an agreement that all States, unilaterally and through mutual co-operation, must contribute to the progressive elimination of the causes underlying international terrorism.

The set of recommendations which the Committee approved aim at the speedy elimination of the problem of terrorism. The Committee's report was presented by the chairman, Mr Rikhi Jaipal, India's Permanent Representative at the United Nations.

Hijacking also figures in the recommendations as a manifestation of terrorism. The Committee has recommended that the U.N. General Assembly should issue an appeal to States which have not yet become parties to the convention dealing with acts committed on board aircraft, signed in Tokyo in 1973, and two other conventions—the Hague Convention for the suppression of unlawful seizure of aircraft, and the Montreal Convention for the prevention and punishment of crimes against internationally protected persons.

The Committee on International Terrorism was set up

by the U.N. General Assembly in 1973 in pursuance of a proposal made by Dr Waldheim, the Secretary-General, following the Munich Olympics episode in which several Israeli athletes were shot dead by Palestinian guerillas. The Committee was entrusted with the task of evolving measures to eliminate international terrorism.

For years the proceedings of the Committee were deadlocked as a result of the uncompromising stands taken by the Big Powers and certain other groups, including those representing national liberation movements in some parts of the world, notably Africa, West Asia and certain regions of the East.

National Affairs

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Group, shows a population of 900 million by the year 2,000 A.D. if the targets are fulfilled, but at the present level of progress, which is admittedly slow, the population would be 1270 million!

Under the new programme, each State should be helped by the Central Government in choosing a suitable plan "which is politically, socially and administratively most appropriate to it for achieving the goal—NRR one.

The States have been divided into three categories on the basis of the family planning performance. The high-performance States are: Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab, Kerala and Delhi. The medium-performance States are: Assam, Karnataka, M.P., Orissa, West Bengal and Sikkim. Sterilisation is more popular in the South; tubectomy in the North, especially U.P.

The Working Group favours a national consensus to create the necessary political will at all levels of the system, both rural and urban, with the village as the unit.

A New Crisis in Indian Ocean

Among the most disturbing recent developments from India's standpoint is the renewed effort by the world's Big Powers to re-enter the Indian Ocean and establish their effective presence in the region, thus turning it into an arena of international conflict. For many months following the U.N. General Assembly resolution asking the Powers to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union carried on talks aimed at fulfilling the objectives of peace. India has for decades been trying, along with certain other littoral States—that is, States whose borders touch the Ocean—to make the Ocean a zone of peace.

Unfortunately, this country's efforts have not proved successful, though at times it seemed as if the Big Powers might agree not to intensify, if not end, their tussle for supremacy in the area because of the vital strategic interests involved. Critics often described India's bid to ensure peace in the region as a lost cause, a futile effort. But despite the occasional setbacks, India has persisted with its efforts. The massive U.N. support gave it a new hope and imparted to the question a new dimension.

But the exit of the Shah of Iran following the revolution in his country and the takeover by Ayatollah Khomeini, together with the diplomatic triumphs of the Soviet Union through the Vietnamese victory in Cambodia, have compelled the U.S.A. to announce its intention to strengthen its forces in the

Indian Ocean, to reinforce Diego Garcia and to despatch the Seventh Fleet to the Ocean (and then to create a new fleet) to safeguard American interests, including the flow of oil supplies. And if the U.S. strengthens its naval force in the Ocean area and establishes or reinforces its bases, the Soviet Union cannot remain behind. Thus starts a competition which threatens peace and stability in the area.

The Government of India has again suggested a conference of littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. But only a few countries seem to be anxious to resist the Big Powers' manoeuvres because of the patronage and various assurances of aid they get from them. The conflicts in the Horn of Africa and among the Arab countries have prompted the smaller powers to ally themselves with the giant Powers in a bid to protect their own national interests. Even if a conference of the type suggested by Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee is held, the result may be nothing more than a series of pious resolutions which none of the Big Powers will implement. Since many of the littoral States of the Indian Ocean have reached understandings with the U.S.A. or, in a few cases with the Soviet Union, the question has become complicated. The new relationships pose a hindrance to the establishment of the Ocean area as a zone of peace.

Speaking in Parliament on March 20, India's External Affairs Minister expressed deep concern over the recent (and

uncontradicted) reports that, after the events in Afghanistan and Iran, the U.S.A. had decided to increase its military presence in the Indian Ocean area. India has been in consultation with other countries of the region, particularly of the Gulf area which has also become very important and strategic in recent months. While some countries do not want the Big-Power presence, others are cold to India's proposal and have been adopting evasive attitudes.

The President of the Yemen Arab Republic* and the Sheikh of the U.A.R. have indicated that they would not like to be under the control of either the U.S.A. or the Soviet Union and that the Big Powers should keep their hands off the region. But the other countries find themselves on the horns of a dilemma. India's stand has all along been consistent on this issue: all foreign bases in the Indian Ocean, including Diego Garcia, must be abolished. On March 12 Mr Vajpayee expressed the Government of India's concern over the reports of the U.S. Government despatching a carrier-led naval task force to the Indian Ocean and the Gulf area. India has been maintaining a close watch on the developments. Mr Vajpayee stated, however, that the Government had not received confirmation of the reports that a new military alliance involving Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and also China was being forged.

India is aware that both the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. have even now certain bases in the Indian Ocean area. These

Powers have not abandoned their talks on limiting armaments in the Indian Ocean, but these talks will be a mere formality. The tension continues and is likely to be intensified. The theory that the fleets of each Power will balance each other and that their presence, therefore, is a guarantee that there will be no actual conflict has been discredited. In fact, a competition has begun, and this is a threat to peace.

The U.S.A. makes no promise about leaving the Indian Ocean, and it does not deny its intentions to hold on to Diego Garcia. Nor has it denied that its naval force is being reinforced to meet any threat stemming from the counter-moves by any other Power. But the Soviet Union has been resorting to a certain measure of duplicity on the issue. It has been acting furtively; while outwardly professing peaceful intentions, it has been making sure of its bases on the African coast and also inland, in Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen. In the joint communiqué issued on March 15, 1979, after Mr Kosygin's six-day visit to India, the Soviet Union joined India in reiterating their firm support for the idea of converting the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace in accordance with the wishes of the people of the region. Both countries regretted that the talks on the Indian Ocean between the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union had been suspended since February, 1978. The Soviet Union expressed its readiness to resume these talks and India appreciated this gesture.

The U.S.A., on the other hand, continues to believe in the policy of arming its friends and allies in the region in a bid to counter the growing Soviet influence. It has refused to learn from experience; history has shown that such a policy finally turns out to be self-defeating, although it does suc-

ceed in feeding the American arms industry, which has become a powerful lobby in that country, assisted in its sales campaigns by the mounting hunger for arms in many countries, especially the oil-rich regions which now have large fortunes to buy armaments. While considerations of world peace and stability require that such arms sales would be discontinued, the U.S.A. and other leading arms manufacturers and suppliers pursue only their short-term interests which pose a threat to peace. The global interests demand genuine postures of peace, phased disarmament and abandonment of policies designed to promote the manufacture of highly destructive weapons. Of this there is no evidence.

For years the impression has been created that India is almost alone in seeking a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean region and that other countries (for instance, Pakistan) seek a zone of another kind in which China and the U.S.A. would also have a say. But it is significant that on March 15 this year Iraq initiated a move at the U.N. for convening an urgent meeting of the littoral and hinterland States of the Ocean to consider the "deteriorating situation in the area". The proposal was made before the 23-nation *ad hoc* committee appointed to make preparations for a meeting of the 44 littoral and hinterland States on the implementation of the 1971 U.N. resolution declaring the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. The Iraqi spokesman referred to some threatening military movements in the Indian Ocean. Somalia also expressed concern at the alarming increase in the military presence of the Big Powers in the region.

Earlier, on March 12, India expressed its deep concern over the despatch of a U.S. Task Force to the Indian Ocean and

the Gulf Area—an action which an official spokesman described as "contrary to the spirit of the U.N. resolution on keeping the Indian Ocean a zone of peace and which would not help the process of promoting stability in the region." The region has been witnessing dramatic upheavals and is seething with tensions and uncertainty. A concrete instance of the renewed tensions in the area was provided by the report, published on March 10, that "Britain and the U.S.A. are in permanent contact over the U.S. proposals to increase the military facilities on Diego Garcia so as to turn it into a major base for a future 5th U.S. Fleet." Specific proposals and plans have still to be worked out, but the U.S. intentions seem to be clear.

It may be recalled that Diego Garcia island was officially detached from Mauritius in 1965 and turned into a military base by Britain, mainly to be used in case of a full Chinese attack on India. Later, under the terms of an agreement signed by the U.S.A. and Britain in February, 1976, the U.S.A. took over complete control of the island.

There is concern in Saudi Arabia, believed to be a U.S. ally, over the new situation in the region after the fall of the Shah, but it is stated that the Saudi Government would not mind a stronger U.S. presence to safeguard its security. It may be noted that on March 9, U.S. Defence Department sources confirmed that plans were under consideration for the creation of a permanent fleet in the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea and also for the despatch of a squadron of F-15 fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. The fresh conflict between North and South Yemen has provided another pretext for such moves.

A disconcerting development in this regard is the report
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The Challenge of the Year 2,000

God, it is said, will not suffer man to have a knowledge of things to come; for, if he had prior knowledge of his prosperity, he would become careless and imprudent; and if he had prescience of adversity, he would despair and even become senseless. Again, mankind believes that we should all live for the future and yet should lead a good life at present; after all, the golden age is not in the past but in the future, though age imparts to man the gift of reading the future by means of experience of the past. India's own inimitable modern leader and nation builder, Jawaharlal Nehru, once said: "Let us have done with the past and its bickerings, and face the future." But sometimes it is horrible and a truly dismal phenomenon to see everything one detested in the past coming back again under the banner of the future.

All this may be true, but what are we to make of the world of today and what it will be like about 20 years hence, in the context of the unhappy experience in many continents, of the follies of mankind, especially in the political and military fields, as a result of the amazing progress of technology? Humanity can only look with awe and wonder at the prospects the year 2000 will hold for it; the future may be bright, or it may be totally dismal. It all depends upon the trends noticeable in the world today and upon the way these are controlled. Will there be enough food for everyone to eat and enough accommodation for everyone in view of the rapidly growing

population and the ever-increasing pressure on raw materials and on space? Now there are just over a billion and half more people in the world than there were in 1950. This increase equals the world's total population of the globe at the beginning of the 20th century. Are we heading for a catastrophe?

Mankind desires freedom from war, freedom from want and freedom from the fear of governments, police systems, espionage, tyrannical majorities and dogmas, in order that we may all enjoy freedom and grow freely and fearlessly. Some men may soar in space ships, but the vast majority of us are doomed to remain on earth, pinned down by worldly anxieties. The problems of existence are numerous and highly complex. Neither the present nor the future can be reduced to a simple question of plus two and two, or two minus two, giving us zero.

Economically, the position has both its negative and positive aspects. Our consumption of non-renewable energy resources during the period of 25 years 1950-1975 was more than the total value and the total volume of energy ever used by mankind since the beginning of the world. According to one calculation, the present generation produces three times as many goods and services as in 1950. Again, while it took humanity thousands of years to reach the level of the Gross National Product (GNP) of 1950, in a single generation we raised it by 300 per cent! The number of motor-cars has increased more than

five times and there is no end to the achievements of science, especially in space.

But it is not a story of roses all the way. The misery of human beings over vast areas has increased even as science has progressed, and the world has become more "civilised". The progress all round has been phenomenal. Ironically enough, the social and economic inequalities have greatly increased; the total production in the developed world has increased three to four times; advanced people are using resources in proportions and in quantities which were undreamt of even 25 years ago. The ample use of primary products and the fullest exploitation of cheap sources of energy have enabled the rich and advanced countries to prosper, but they made sparing use of human power; so, wages and inflation resulted. There is what we may call "a technological civilisation" in the rich countries known for very high productivity. The developing countries of the Third World have derived some benefit from Western technology, though not as much as the lenders of technology themselves.

But the disconcerting spectacle of the poor becoming poorer in the world as a whole and even in countries which are fast developing has to be explained. The tragedy is that the pattern of growth does not go down to the grassroots and it remains confined to certain levels. Even the probability of the general and *per capita* income rising three-fold may not

materially improve the lot of the common man. A study of the future of world economy published a couple of years ago by the United Nations and conducted by a Nobel Prize winner, Wassily W. Leontief, indicated that there would be in the developing world a distinct handicap and "a lagging behind" because of the increasing population. The yawning gap that will become even more glaring will be apparent from the estimate that while the developed countries will increase their *per capita* income, on an average, by amounts between 2,000 to 3,000 dollars, the poor countries will add only 50 to 70 dollars during the next 20 to 25 years!

The sharper divisions and the widening gap between the wealth of nations point to the urgency of promoting equality, but for decades the world's saints, philosophers and also certain far-sighted statesmen, have been striving for such equality without much success. Nor are the prospects of promoting such equality any better in the decades to come. Actually, the advanced people, in their own interest should co-operate in facilitating such equality, but there is no sign that they are willing to reduce their high standard of living; rather, they are striving to raise it further, regardless of what happens to the rest of humanity. Their callousness despite their high education is amazing. The distinct possibility of a turning of the tide, even a revolt, which may deprive them of their cherished possessions does not seem to occur to them. The persistent demand for a new and just international economic order is well founded and is not a mere slogan, though the rich countries appear to treat it as such.

Now let us assess the prospects for the year 2,000 from the point of view of military capa-

bilities, especially nuclear weapons. On the control of such weapons, it is said, the fate of the world depends. The U.S. Committee for Economic Development, in a significant research study, has pointed out that in the next 20 years about 100 countries will possess the raw material and the technical know-how to produce nuclear bombs. "By the year 2,000", says the report, the total plutonium produced as a by-product of global nuclear power will be the equivalent of one million bombs..... There is not straightforward military protection against these forthcoming dangers. Nor is there any foreign or commercial policy that can arrest the development of the capability to construct nuclear weapons..."

So the prospects of lasting peace recede even as the world makes progress and becomes more "civilised". According to military experts, at present there is what is often described as a "balance of terror", which means that since the giants have adequate nuclear armaments, the stockpile of each acts as a deterrent to the other, a sort of stern warning that if any war was started, the other power has the capacity to hit back, and then both powers would suffer destruction. That is what prevents a war between the East and the West, at present. But this balance may not last; with the rapid increase in the number of countries developing the nuclear capability, the risks of war will spread. The captains of the armaments industry in this wide and highly selfish world will not remain content, unless their business goes on increasing, and when the nuclear stockpiles are full, the bombs and other military equipment will have to be consumed; their "consumption" can be assured only through conflicts in some part of the world—direct wars or proxy wars, but wars and destruction all the same. It is like promoting the con-

sumption of foodgrain surpluses somehow so as to make way for the next bumper crop for which space has to be found in the Government godowns!

India and several other countries have been pleading for disarmament for this very reason—to ensure world peace by restricting the production of weapons and preventing their uncontrolled stockpiling. For this a start must be made from the top—that is, by the giant powers which have all the strings in their hands; they have the major armaments. But they are also the world's major hypocrites; at the repeated rounds of the Disarmament Conferences in Geneva they resort to sheer hypocrisy—talking of peace even while rapidly manufacturing more and more dangerous weapons.

General and complete disarmament is the only alternative to self-destruction by the end of the 20th century. It is believed that already the Big Powers have manufactured more armaments than are necessary to destroy the world 20 times over. And yet even the first step for nuclear disarmament—an agreement to stop nuclear explosions—has not been taken up, so strong are the vested interests.

In sum, both economically and militarily the prospects for the world in 2,000 are dismal and disheartening.

A New Crisis in Indian Ocean (Contd. from page 634)

of a secret understanding between the U.S.A. and China by which the latter would not object to a stronger U.S. presence in the Indian Ocean to counter Soviet influence. Thus the Indian Ocean is fast becoming an arena for international conflicts.

Are we fit for Democracy ?

Is the democratic system practised in India a blessing or a curse ? This question has often been debated in and outside the Parliament by both the literates as well as the illiterates of our countrymen. The prevailing disarray on the political front is accountable for this. This feature discusses the position in its various facets.

—Editor

Despotism is dead. But is not democracy despised ? The question facing the 630 million people of India today is: Are we fit for democracy? This may sound rather surprising in view of our claim to being the biggest democracy in the world and the fact that the country has had 30-year long democratic rule and parliamentary form of government. Notwithstanding this, the question is real and is hotly debated.

That modern India is irrevocably committed to democracy needs no argument. The very Preamble of our Constitution open thus: "We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a sovereign socialist secular *democratic republic*." (*emphasis added*) For the democratic edifice, the Preamble provided four pillars: (1) Justice, social, economic and political; (2) Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; (3) Equality of status and of opportunity; and (4) Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

It is one thing to accept democracy, in principle, and quite another to live it. For, democracy means rule by consent and dialogue; it means a compromise where there is dissent; it is a respecter of an individual's will but self-gain is subordinated to the social benefit. It rules out, however, "consent to our rulers supinely as an anaesthetised patient". On the

contrary, fearlessness, self-expression and self-introspection are the pre-requisites of the process of democracy. It is, thus, a way of life. Is it, or has it been, so with us? That is the question before us.

In ancient India, democratic institutions required elections of even kings. But that, at best, supports the thesis that democracy is in our genius. That should not be an argument to perpetuate democracy. The present political goings-on in India are giving rise to anger, despair and cynicism about democracy. There is now a growing lack of faith in democracy. It is being increasingly believed that it has failed to deliver the goods during the last three decades or so. This feeling is not confined to us. It is shared by many other countries of Asia and Africa. In fact, our neighbouring countries (Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh) abandoned democracy in favour of dictatorship. Although the change in the political system there has flopped miserably, it has not ceased to inspire some in our country. We still continue experimenting with democracy.

The March 1977 elections are cited as an irrefutable evidence of India's inveterate commitment to democracy and a positive vote against authoritarianism, coming as they did after the traumatic experience of Emergency. The fact that India has been holding elections

on the basis of adult suffrage for the last three decades supports the contention that we are wedded to democratic institutions.

But with the march of time, the enormity of the problems besetting democracy has shaken the confidence of some (not in minority) in its efficacy. The number of doubting Thomases is growing day by day, perhaps, because the gains of the 20-month Emergency make a more impressive picture than those of 20 months of democracy under the Janata party regime, or those of the Congress rule immediately preceding the imposition of Emergency. The efficient functioning of democracy for the well-being of the masses is likely to be ever more difficult. Some of the broad reasons that can adduced for this are listed below.

1. Socio-political factors:

(i) *Voters' boom*: The burgeoning population of India has added to the stream of electorate several-fold. The increase will be unprecedented if the minimum voting age, as demanded by the youth, is lowered universally from 21 years to 18 years. (Some State governments have, in the case of elections for the local self-government bodies, already adopted the lower age-limit for voting.) The problem of numbers will pose a big challenge, particularly if the voters have different political affiliations. The proliferation of political parties/

groups with different ideologies will make reconciliation very difficult and democratic functioning will not be a smooth-sailing affair. The conglomerate Janata party exemplifies this appropriately. Its constituents, despite the patch-up of a merger for about two years now, are finding it difficult to pull together. The rifts in the party are widening with the lapse of time. Even the top leaders have admitted this. The result is that the party continues to suffer from instability and has projected a very poor showing of its performance.

The coalition governments formed during the Congress rule during 1967-71 proved miserable failures. Political defection was the rule and stability an exception. Defectors have had their field days. This made the people sceptical about India's fitness for democracy.

(ii) *Illiteracy*: Literacy is a *sine qua non* for democracy. India lacks this. As is well known, the illiteracy rate is very high in India. It is seventy per cent! To expect from the illiterate masses a judicious and rational decision-making in vital matters of national import will be too much. Even in exercising their franchise they are guided generally by what is called 'herd instinct.' Caste, religious and regional affinities or other parochial considerations are given more weight than the party or the person. They hardly bring objectivity to bear on their decisions. Clever politicians and time-servers find it easy to trade upon the simpletons. How can democracy be worked effectively under such conditions?

It may be asked whether the intellectuals show a markedly different behaviour. As some one said, intellectuals are a mass of cowardly indifferent people. Their involvement is generally uninspiring.

(iii) *Self-discipline*: Democracy demands self-discipline, a national character and a certain measure of moderation and accommodation of behaviour. Neither the Congress party nor the Janata party leaders have exhibited a sense of discipline in exercising their rights and shouldering their responsibilities enjoined by democracy.

(iv) *Social heterogeneity*: Diversity is an important feature of the Indian society. There is multiplicity of religions, races and other groupings. The social compartmentalisation into castes—scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes—inhibits social cohesion. The people of different castes, cultures and customs, different values and attitudes of life and different economic status cannot possibly meet on a common platform assured under democratic system. The separating barriers keep the cauldron of conflict and strife boiling. The spirit compromise is alien to them. Democracy is bound to fail in such an atmosphere. What is necessary for true democracy is national consciousness, the will to transcend parochial considerations of religion, caste, language and region. To be a democrat, an average Indian must react quickly to issues outside this ambit. But, does he?

(v) *Mal-practices*: Democracy and political corruption go ill together. And yet, the fact remains that corruption and mal-practices have mushroomed on Indian soil. "Our municipalities are a nursery where incompetent men learn how to be corrupt; they graduate into the Vidhan Sabhas and become rulers of the nation". The same spectacle may be presented by the village panchayats when, as recommended by the Asoka Mehta Committee on Panchayats, they are invaded by the politicians to capture power.

What is worse, the adminis-

tration has gone corrupt. It is inefficient. It shuns responsibilities and demands more rights and privileges. Those who swear by Gandhi know not that means must justify the ends. They try to achieve the ends, good, bad or indifferent, by devious means without a quiver of their conscience.

(vi) *Freedom*: Freedom is democracy but it is confused with licentiousness. The "freedoms" embodied in the Constitution do not contemplate "unrestricted play of individualism" to the detriment of social interest and the public good. The way the people, including the intellectual elites, and the Press conducted during the Emergency shows that we are not really committed to freedom but are in the habit of kowtowing to men in authority.

2. **Economic factors**: For some polemicists any debate on the fitness or otherwise of our country for democracy is irrelevant. The pertinent question, according to them is, how to bring about economic democracy. All the socio-political maladies are traced to economic under-development. If the national income cake is enlarged so as to ensure to every body a bigger slice, many of the diseases afflicting the Indian polity will be cured. The disenchantment with democracy and the disillusionment with the Janata party rule are due to the deepening poverty and unemployment. The tolerance of the public is at the breaking point. The emphasis should, therefore, shift from changing the political system to transformation of the economy, its structure.

Conclusion: The Indian democracy is thoroughly diseased. The Indian citizens have lost confidence in it, and a feeling is growing that we are unfit for it. The political system must

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Public Sector and Economic Development

Despite 30 years of the working of the mixed economy, the controversy continues to rage about the public sector role in India. This feature highlights the part played by the public sector in promoting the ends of economic development.
—Editor

Delivering the sixth G.D. Somani Memorial Lecture at Bombay, Mr George Fernandes, Union Minister of Industries observed: "Without the public sector, India would not be among the front-rankers in the world, which she is to-day, in the sphere of industry and technology. Whether it is nuclear or space technology, heavy engineering, aeronautics, ship-building, steel, energy, machine tools or such essential consumer goods as textiles, pharmaceuticals or even bread, the contribution of the public sector has been tremendous to the national development. Anybody who fails to see this is living with blinkers on". This observation provides an incontrovertible vindication to the adoption of the mixed economy policy for the socio-economic transformation of the country.

The public sector was for the first time assigned a niche in the Indian economy in 1948 by the first Industrial Policy Resolution—the "Magna Carta" for the public sector—and later through the Industrial Policy Statement, 1956,—the "Carte blanche" for the growth of almost the entire economy. With this the public sector started moving towards commanding heights in the various fields of industrial and commercial activity. Over the last three decades, the public sector has registered strident progress and given a big boost even to its counter-part—the private sector. The complementarity in the functioning of the two sectors

has not only accelerated the growth of the economy but has also created self-generating forces. The public sector has thus provided a new perspective to the country's economic development. Some salient features may be listed here.

1. Egalitarianism: The skewed distribution of income and wealth in the country constituted the biggest hurdle in the process of our economic development. The expanding public sector has come as a powerful weapon for the transformation of the pre-Independence feudal society into a socialist one. For this purpose, a multi-faceted approach has been adopted:

(i) Rapid growth: The keynote of our plans is growth with social justice. This meant massive investment with a bias for the public sector. The investment allocation for the public sector in all the plans has been higher than that for the private sector. The dominant position accorded to the public sector has been dictated by two compelling considerations: (a) The socialist ideology of planning; and (b) where the private sector has failed to invest, the public sector has filled the vacuum. As a result, the share of the private sector in the overall industrial production has declined. The rapid growth of the public sector has, thus, inhibited concentration of economic power in the private sector. But it has not annihilated it altogether. But for the public sector, the economic disparities

would have grown disproportionately larger. As Mr Fernandes says, "there is no alternative but to increase investment in the public sector if further concentration of economic power is to be avoided".

(ii) Industrial diversification: The public sector investment has had a wide spectrum of basic and infra-structure industries. Their multiplier effects are more significant than their direct contribution. The forward and backward linkages of these industries promoted wide-spread and balanced growth, and led to the establishment of ancillary industries. The regional imbalances have reduced and employment has increased.

The provision of infra-structure facilities created new industries, increased the mobility of resources, lowered transport costs and quickened industrialization. The measure of success so achieved should be regarded as a better performance index of the public sector than the traditional measure of profitability or productivity etc. That does not mean however that the public sector occupies the pride of place merely because of the infra-structural enterprises.

(iii) Capital formation: The contribution of the public sector towards capital formation leaves much to be desired. The share of the public sector in the gross capital formation has, during the plan period, been, generally, below that of the private sector. This is a pointer to the need for

improving operational efficiency of the public sector undertakings. It does not however warrant sweeping denunciation of the public sector.

(iv) *Export*: A large number of public sector goods, such as electronic equipment, engineering products, chemicals and consumer goods, have entered the international markets and are adding substantial foreign exchange earnings to our kitty. Apprehensions are that the recession in the Western world and the protectionist measures are likely to arrest, if not reverse, this trend. Otherwise, the public sector claim for export promotion and sinews of development merits recognition.

(v) *Import substitution*: Allied to the role played by the public sector towards export promotion is its contribution in import substitution. Some of the State undertakings have achieved significant success in their efforts towards import substitution and consequently in saving the hard-earned foreign exchange. The extent to which this is done will signify the country's march towards self-reliance which is one of our plan goals.

2. **Industrial base**: The public sector has enlarged the industrial base. This has been achieved through the expansion of infra-structure services and research and development. The latter has made it possible to improve the quality and reduce the costs of the manufactured goods by the application of new and sophisticated technology.

3. **Social**: India's social fabric has experienced a perceptible impact of the burgeoning public sector. The most pronounced manifestation of this is the reduction in unemployment and under-employment in the rural sector, especially in the backward rural regions. This is reflected in the rise in *per capita* income and the

growing consciousness for better quality of life. The public sector has thus ameliorated the plight of the poor masses and cut the vicious circle of poverty and stagnation.

The increased participation of the State in social welfare activities like birth control and education has given a new dimension to the role of the public sector. If the public sector activities have, so far, failed to make a deep dent on the birth rate or on the educational coverage, it should not be construed as an argument to denigrate the government for its failure on this count. On the contrary, it should activate the government to muster intensive efforts to meet the formidable challenges confronting the government.

4. **State exchequer**: The public sector enterprises have, *inter alia*, been assigned a significant role in resource mobilisation for economic development. Twenty five per cent of the savings are contributed by the public sector, 66 per cent by the household sector and roughly 10 per cent by the corporate sector.

Criticism: The critics of the public sector characterize it as a white elephant. They argue that since the public sector makes long gestation period investments, the return on them is frozen for long. In fact, our experience is that many of the public sector undertakings are earning very marginal profits or running in loss. Such a criticism is indeed misleading. It ignores the fact that if the price policy of the public sector were re-oriented after the private sector fashion, there is little doubt that the public sector would start showing profits. Through capacity utilisation and better production performance many of the public sector enterprises have turned the corner in terms of the conventional yard-stick of net-profit after tax.

In fact, according to the Industry Minister, 90 out of 153 public sector enterprises of the Central government are yielding profits.

Moreover, it is not obligatory that the public sector in a welfare State like India must show profits. That, however, does not imply that losses in the public sector can be looked upon with equanimity. The fact is that management of the public sector enterprises on commercial basis is now widely recognised.

Conclusion: The public sector has now come to stay. If socialism remains, as it does, our accepted goal, there is not only no getting away from the public sector but its rapid expansion becomes a desideratum. We need to take steps for the removal of the flaws in the functioning of the public sector rather than 'throw away the baby with the bath tub'.

Are we fit for Democracy

(Contd. from page 638)

be changed, is the *vox populi*. Directly opposite to this is the erroneous view that India has a sound democracy at the grass-roots and despite all the deficiencies in its working it would be unwise to throw the baby with the bath-tub. Instead of replacing the political system, it should be given a new complexion *via* economic transformation. Opinion is divided as to whether the latter is possible under the prevailing political panorama. Whatever the change desired or the mode adopted to bring about that change, it is difficult to think of a revival of the Emergency which had been rejected at the hustings two years before.

ECONOMIC SCENE

- Commonwealth Meet & India
- RBI Credit Squeeze ?
- MRTP Panel Report
- New Plan Strategy

Commonwealth Meet & India

Q. What is the significance of the Commonwealth industrial ministers' conference for the developing countries and India.

Ans. The Commonwealth industry ministers' first-ever meet at Bangalore was, in a sense, a mini-UN conference of very great significance both for the developed and the developing Commonwealth countries. The decision of the Conference to set up a new Industrial Development Unit (IDU) with a seed capital of £ 5 million (to be contributed on the basis of population and *per capita* income by the member-countries over a period of three years) is characterized as a vital 'action programme'. India may head the list of donors to the IDU capital among the developing nations.

Though not a new organisation to promote international co-operation it is, in a sense, unique. It will mark the beginning of new linkages of international co-operation among the developing countries. The Conference envisaged to secure for the developing countries 25 per cent of the world's industrial output by 2000 A.D. against 7 per cent of to-day's. The measures contemplated at the meet will also tend to narrow down the widening technological gaps arising from the traditional pattern of transfer of know-how and technology from the developed to the developing nations.

India has already offered to small nations her readiness to extend technology aid. The horizontal transfer of technology among the developing nations and up-dating it will materially aid their growth. India has signed bilateral agreements with seven of the Commonwealth countries for technical assistance in setting up new industries there.

India's industrial policy lays accent on the growth and development of small-scale and agro-based industries. The Commonwealth meet has identified these as the most promising area of co-operation. Joint action is also expected in a number of specialized activities including project identification and appraisal, manpower and entrepreneurial development, the creation of an industrial infra-structure, the selection of appropriate technology, procurement of finance and access to markets.

RBI Credit Squeeze ?

Q. Outline, briefly, the modified credit policy of the Reserve Bank of India.

Ans. The bank credits affect money supply which, in turn, influences the forces of inflation. Though inflationary potential in India has been kept under check over the last couple of years, the latest annual report of the Reserve Bank of India warns

against any "complacency on the price front".

The Bank had issued a directive in December 1978 that the incremental credit-deposit ratio should be confined to 40 per cent. But the commercial banks have flouted this directive with the result that there have been a spurt in credit. The actual credit expansion during December 1 and March 2 has proliferated to Rs. 1275 crore as against the stipulated amount of not more than Rs. 640 crore (excluding the food credit). Being wary of any credit expansion that is likely to be potentially inflationary, the RBI has taken three deterrent measures: (a) to withdraw re-finance and re-discount facilities in respect of banks who fail to maintain as of March 30, 1979, the statutory liquidity ratio of 34 per cent of aggregate demand and time liabilities; (b) to charge a penal additional 3 per cent interest from the defaulting banks which utilize re-finance/re-discount facilities and also seek accommodation from the Bank as a lender of the last resort; (c) to expect the banks to rely on their own resources for credit disbursal and not to have access to outside resources.

The Bank has also directed to apply more rigidly the scrutiny norms in respect of borrowers who want to have loans above Rs. 50 lakh.

It may be asked whether these measures are intended to make the regulatory steps already on the Bank's books more effective or whether they make credit more restrictive? According to some the basic thrust of the RBI's credit policy modification is on "re-allocating the expanding credit rather than on stilling credit expansion as such." It is argued that the RBI Governor does not contemplate to inhibit credit for genuine increases in exports, production or agriculture. He does not consider the entire credit expansion "unjustified" but would, considering the cushions available in the present-day economy - the best ever during the last 25 years or so - undertake mild doses of credit expansion at some risks of growth. This approach is supported by some monetarists who contend that it is difficult to unscramble the speculative part of the already expanding credit from the productive part. The adequacy or otherwise of credit, according to them, depends on several assumptions such as growth, imports, the marketed surplus of foodgrains and cash crops. If favourable conditions exist, as at present, not all credit expansion is harmful. They, therefore, do not welcome the modified credit policy of the RBI which is likely to inhibit investment even when favourable growth prospects exist.

M RTP Panel Report

Q. Write a note on the recommendations of the MRTP Panel.

Ans. The 14-member panel of top industrialists on industrial licensing procedure with Mr H.P. Nanda as its Chairman made the following salient recommendations: (1) A Monopoly and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) company should be re-defined on the basis of net current assets and *not* gross

current assets. The former may be computed as: gross fixed assets minus depreciation plus net current assets. (2) The limit of assets for an MRTP company may be raised from the existing level of Rs. 20 crore to Rs. 50 crore with a view to making it more realistic under the existing conditions of high project costs and inflation. (3) On the policy of licensing, the panel suggested three alternatives: (a) total de-licensing for the achievement of rapid industrialization; (b) raising the exemption limit for licensing from Rs. 3 crore to Rs. 20 crore; (c) liberalisation of licensing policy in order to make it more meaningful and pragmatic so as to help increase production and avoid shortages and scarcities. These measures might include removal of import restrictions; no discrimination among the public and private sector undertakings; (4) An automatic growth rate of 5 per cent (compound) per year or 30 per cent for 5 years should be permitted for all industries including the "dominant" undertakings; (5) The MRTP rule, 1971, for classification of goods should not be amended or alternatively re-classification of goods should be done on end-use criteria.

New Plan Strategy

Q. "Advance audaciously instead of creeping cautiously" (L.K. Jha). Discuss this strategy of planning under the existing economic climate.

Ans. "Advance audaciously instead of creeping cautiously" epitomizes the new strategy of Mr L.K. Jha, noted economist and Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, for revamping economic development plan strategy for India.

According to his analysis, India's era of planning may be divided into three phases: the first phase was of "prodigality" in public sector investment which

ended with the third five-year plan; the second phase was of "parsimoniousness" in public sector investment for the next ten years; the third phase started in the middle of the fifth five year plan with promises and paradoxes. India is now well set to grapple with the new situation. The challenges confronting the country have been identified as: (i) whopping disparities between the rich and the poor sections of society. The gaps between the incomes of the ruralites and the urbanites have more than doubled after 26 years since 1950-51. The *per capita* income of an agricultural worker in the country stood now at Rs. 196 and that of non-agricultural worker at Rs. 813 as against Rs. 198 and Rs. 399 respectively in 1950-51. (Reply of Mr Charan Singh, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, to the Lok Sabha debate on the Union Budget, 1979-80); (ii) the disparities between the urban industrial sector and the rural hinterland; (iii) the general level of poverty and unemployment of the people.

As against these problems, the economic climate in the country is quite comfortable, at least for the short-run. We have, for instance, (a) enough of foodgrain buffer stocks (20 million ton); (b) foreign exchange reserves (at present Rs. 5,000 crore) are growing; (c) relative price stability; (d) eroding psychology of scarcity; (e) higher outputs in the agricultural and industrial sectors. Considering such factors as these, India has a big potential for creating additional employment far greater than what the food-for-work programme covers. It would be a defeatist approach to consider that deficit financing undertaken for creating new employment on cash payment basis will be inflationary. It is the appropriate time for the
(Contd. on page 648)

India's Nuclear Future

Amidst the confusing, and often contradictory, statements by the Prime Minister and other spokesmen of the Government about nuclear programmes, the future of the country's major atomic energy establishment at Tarapur (near Bombay) continues to be uncertain. The uncertainty, in fact, covers the entire plans for nuclear development, and it is at times difficult to specify the position India occupies in respect of nuclear development. The choices are hard and the options limited; even so, it is undeniable that on certain occasions this country has provided evidence of a partial surrender on principle in a bid to ensure substantial supplies of enriched uranium from the U.S.A. to run the Tarapur plant. The Government denies it, which is natural; it offers round-about explanations in respect of acceptance or non-acceptance of full-scope safeguards on which the U.S.A. now insists. At other times India talks of "alternative sources" of supply of nuclear fuel, hinting at a deal with the Soviet Union in this regard; Indian leaders also boast of enough reserves of uranium in the country to run its nuclear energy plants. "Nuclear self-sufficiency" is becoming a popular slogan.

For many months India has been pressing the U.S.A. to fulfil its obligations under the 1963 agreement on Tarapur and to supply the agreed quantity of enriched uranium (about 17 tonnes) as required under that agreement. President Carter gave assurances during his visit to India in January, 1978, that

he would spare no effort to have the supply sanctioned by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission before which India's application was pending. During Mr Morarji Desai's visit to the U.S.A. in June, 1978, there were further talks on the issue, and Mr Desai made certain policy commitments which aroused a controversy in this country and raised many eyebrows elsewhere also.

While categorically turning down the American demand for full-scope safeguards in respect of all our nuclear installations, Mr Desai posed the challenge: "Will the U.S. Congress open all nuclear installations in the U.S.A. to inspection by other countries?". He also made it clear that if the U.S.A. stopped nuclear fuel supplies, India regarded herself as competent enough to look for alternative sources of supply. Tarapur will not be allowed to close down, he said. "We cannot be prevented by any country from going ahead with using nuclear power for peaceful purposes", he declared at San Francisco on June 10, 1978. Again, while insisting on the fulfilment of U.S. obligations under the 1963 agreement for nuclear collaboration regardless of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act, 1978, Mr Desai asked a vital question: "Must India be singled out for disfavour by a friendly country like the U.S.A. through a unilateral modification of its contractual obligation?"

So far, Mr Desai's stand was unexceptionable. But the concession and the partial surrender he made (which caused confu-

sion and uncertainty) came when he said in his speech before the U.N. General Assembly's special session on Disarmament on June 9 that "we are unilaterally pledged not to manufacture nuclear weapons; we have gone further and abjured nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes". Incidentally, this was the assurance from India which the world's nuclear powers, especially the giants, the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union, had been seeking from this country after the Pokhran explosion of 1974. Mr Desai's assurance went far beyond any of the promises made by Mrs Indira Gandhi when she was Prime Minister; it was also in contradiction of the assurance which Mr Desai himself gave to India's Parliament on July 13, 1977. He agreed that he should not make a commitment for all future time. He was also wrong in believing that nuclear explosions are needed only for military purposes and not for purposes which can be called peaceful. India's own Atomic Energy Commission has given a contrary view. Mr Desai evidently did not consult Indian atomic experts before making the statement.

On March 23, 1979, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission at last approved India's application for the supply of 16.8 tonnes of enriched uranium for Tarapur. The specific orders were for authorising the export to India of 404.51 kg of U-235 contained in 16803 kg of uranium enriched to a maximum of 2.71 per cent. It has to be noted that the decision was by a narrow margin, 3 against 2,

which indicates that there is still a strong lobby in the U.S.A. against supplying such nuclear supplies to India even though the U.S.A. is offering nuclear material to China and certain other countries without the strict conditions it seeks to make applicable to India. This also indicates discrimination, and also a political motive. Nuclear supplies are being made a political weapon, and the U.S. stand amounts to nuclear blackmail.

Again, it has to be noted that the sanction for uranium has been grudgingly made and is already late. Even if, as is likely, the supply is sent to India by air instead of by sea, as was the original arrangement, it will come some months later than the due date. The delay is deliberate and has been caused despite President Carter's efforts to expedite the despatch. Moreover, there is also the hostile reaction in the U.S.A. which needs to be noted. Harsh things were said about India in spite of Mr Desai's assurances of wholly peaceful intentions. There has even been bitter denunciation of this country by Americans. All this puts in jeopardy the equally important next consignment for which India has applied—19.6 tonnes of enriched uranium for Tarapur. And this consignment is also overdue, but its supply is far from certain.

The U.S. Government, it may be noted, has yet to forward India's application for this additional consignment, with its recommendation, to the Commission. This means that again there will be a prolonged and unsavoury debate on India's request—a far from reassuring prospect. The squabbles on the issue, in fact, make nonsense of contractual commitments by a big country which believes in and professes democracy. As Mr Desai has often pointed out, the U.S. Government will lose

its credibility in the eyes of the developing countries if it flouts agreements. But none of these arguments seem to affect the U.S. stand which is obviously governed by extraneous considerations. In fact, there is a widespread fear in this country that India's recent agreement (at U.S. persuasion) to join an international panel of experts on full-scope safeguards may lead ultimately to this country's acceptance of U.S. terms.

Although the Government of India has said it will not be bound by any decision of the experts' panel which this country regards as discriminatory, such a declaration is meaningless. There is talk also of terminating the Tarapur agreement with the U.S.A. so as to end the continuing uncertainty (in March, 1980, the agreement will have to be renewed if both countries want such renewal; otherwise it may lapse). Meanwhile, the tensions and misunderstandings may grow which will be hardly conducive to Indo-U.S. cordiality.

There is yet another dismal aspect of the question which also calls for notice at the highest level of the Government and also by the people of India. If the state of uncertainty continues and the agreement with the U.S.A. remains theoretically in force, India's option to reprocess the spent fuel lying at Tarapur (which the U.S. Government has not taken back as it was required to do under the original agreement) will be virtually lost. As a result, India's programme to develop its fast breeder nuclear reactors is being needlessly hindered. This country is thus suffering both ways.

This issue of nuclear fuel supplies has still to be pursued with the Government of the U.S.A. The announcement made in New Delhi about the visit of Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, External Affairs Minister, to the

U.S.A. on April 20 or thereabouts has to be assessed in this light. There need be no doubt that, apart from political matters arising from Mr Kosygin's six-day trip to India early in March this year, the question of continuing nuclear supplies for Tarapur will also be discussed during the Indo-U.S. Washington talks. The U.S. Administration has indicated that it will not be able to supply enriched uranium to India after March, 1980, because of the law recently passed by the U.S. Congress making acceptance of full-scope safeguards by a recipient country compulsory for entitlement to nuclear supplies.

Since India has not accepted these conditions, the U.S. Government presumably feels it is in no position to ask the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to sanction the second application made by India for 19.5 tonnes of the vital fuel. But the legal position is that India is entitled to receive nuclear supplies for Tarapur until 1993, as stated in the agreement on the subject. The agreement does not remove or modify the U.S. obligation in any way. But the U.S. Government contends that it is bound by the subsequent Congress legislation.

This raises a crucial question of legal commitment. Can a country unilaterally render an international agreement null and void by passing a law? The sanctity of legal and international agreements is now open to doubt. If getting out of a solemn contract is so easy, what is the point in making it and what credibility can such a government and such a contractual agreement command? The dilemma is in many ways a very difficult one. It is a question of honour and principle on one side, and expediency and immediate gains on the other.

Hindi and Hindi Fanatics

Since Independence the Hindi-English controversy has been carried on by advocates of these languages. At times the language debate has even become bitter, and it has also acquired the dimensions of a North-South debate. The latest phase of the controversy is the demand that the President of India should always speak in Hindi on official occasions. The proposition for discussion is: "The President of India should always speak in Hindi on all official occasions."

Mr A: I submit, Sir, that Hindi is our national language, but even 32 years after the attainment of freedom the national language has not been given its rightful place. English continues to be patronised; not only that; the use of English is getting more popular even at the cost of Hindi. Most people prefer English-medium schools; Hindi is often at a discount. But that apart, the question we are now discussing is whether the President of India should always use Hindi in his official addresses to the nation, the Parliament of India and at all public functions he addresses. I am strongly of the view that he should do so, otherwise Hindi will never become the official language of India in the true sense. When the President inaugurates the Budget session of Parliament in February every year, and when he addresses the nation on the occasion of Republic Day, and when he presides over important public functions, the use of Hindi by him should be obligatory. The demand has lately been strengthened in this regard by the plea made at a students' function held in February, 1979, and at the Sangeet Natak Akademi function in Delhi on March 16 that the President must speak in Hindi. Does it not look strange that the Head of State should continue to patronise a foreign language on such occasions? It is a pity that the President addresses Parliament and the nation in

English and his address has to be translated into Hindi for the enlightenment of many of the MPs who are not conversant with the language, and for the benefit of the masses who can understand only Hindi. So far as I know, in no other country of the world does the Head of State use a foreign language on national occasions. Indian leaders demand the inclusion of Hindi among the languages to be included in the category "international". Mr Vajpayee addressed the U.N. General Assembly in Hindi. But in our own country Hindi receives a setback every now and then. Surely, something should be done about it. Are we not betraying the Constitution itself by thus showing disrespect to Hindi, the national language?

Mr B: My friend, Mr A, seems to have become over-enthusiastic about Hindi. His arguments are misleading for two reasons. First, even though Hindi is the national language, the use of English is officially permissible, by the Constitution itself. As long as the people of the South do not accept Hindi as the language of the entire country, there cannot be any compulsion about the use of language. Various Prime Ministers, right from Jawaharlal Nehru to Morarji Desai, have given definite assurances to the people of the South that there will be no compulsion in the use of Hindi for

administrative and other purposes and that the switch-over in the language from Hindi to English will be made only with the consent and approval of the people of the South. Impatience and haste in this matter may do the country—and also to the cause of Hindi itself—much harm. Hindi cannot be forced down the throats of people; it can be made popular by persuasion, as is necessary for every reform. Secondly, how can the President of India, Mr Sanjiva Reddy, speak in Hindi when he does not know the language? How would it look if the President speaks in broken Hindi, fumbles in pronouncing Hindi words and causes amusement by odd accent and the ignorance of the language? Dr Radhakrishnan was also not quite familiar with Hindi and his addresses in English were tolerated, and listened to with respect. He was a great Sanskrit scholar also. Similarly, Mr V.V. Giri did not know Hindi. Mr Sanjiva Reddy has admitted that he does not know Hindi and, therefore, he sought the people's forbearance and indulgence. Why must Hindi fanatics in such circumstances insist that he should always speak in Hindi? The excessive enthusiasm verging on fanaticism does not serve the cause of Hindi; rather, it tends to create a bitter reaction. The President himself retorted at the March 16 function: "I do not like fanatics and I don't want to encourage fanaticism." The lack

of the knowledge of Hindi is not a disqualification for the country's highest office—that of the President—and it would be folly to lay down such a condition because it would keep out some of the country's most talented personalities. Besides, it has been a convention that if the Prime Minister is from the North, the President should be from some other part of the country to ensure adequate representation. And it is only fair that the South be represented at the highest levels of the Government.

Mr C: I am afraid the contentions put forward by my friend, Mr B, will not convince most people of the country. People who understand Hindi outnumber by far those who understand English and other languages. Should we pander to the dictates and tastes of a small, or rather very small minority, or should we seek constantly to encourage the use of Hindi, even if gradually, so that it becomes the *lingua franca* in a specified period of time? We may deplore the use of force or of tactics smacking of compulsion, we must also promote the national interests, and these interests require that we promote the use of Hindi as rapidly as possible. If the Head of State speaks in a foreign language, Hindi will not get the place that it deserves. The argument that the President of India does not know Hindi does not appeal to me. Surely, any educated person can learn Hindi with a little effort. It is not necessary that the President should become a scholar of Hindi and Sanskrit, but simple and elementary Hindi is not at all difficult to learn. The people of India are not so intolerant as to ridicule a southern accent in speaking Hindi by the President. But is it not a pity that the President of India has not made any attempt at all to learn and speak in simple Hindi? Adequate

facilities are available everywhere, especially in Delhi, to learn Hindi. The Government of India has itself provided a special department for this purpose. Why is not full use made of it? I may add that there have been cases of State Governors rapidly picking up the language of the State where they are posted. A Governor of Punjab who belonged to Maharashtra learnt to speak Punjabi; he even delivered his annual address to the State Assembly in the regional language. So the plea that the President of India does not know Hindi is a lame argument. It is true that there is no legal or Constitutional bar against any person not knowing Hindi becoming the President of India. But continued ignorance of Hindi under that excuse is, I think, unpardonable. It is nobody's argument that the President should give up his high office if he does not know Hindi, but a gesture on his part is called for in the national interest. He is, in fact, expected to set an example by conforming to the spirit of the Constitution.

Mr D: The arguments given by Mr A and Mr C seem reasonable but only superficially. Just note the absurd limits to which Hindi enthusiasts have gone. In Bihar an official advertisement, carrying the signature of Mr Karpoori Thakur, the Chief Minister, appealed to the people to have their nameplates, sign-boards and other notices painted in Hindi. Are not Hindi fanatics trying to ram Hindi down the throats of people? The "Angrezi hatao" campaigns, launched with a zeal and fervour worthy of better causes, are likely to prompt "Hindi hatao" drives in the South. In fact, several South Indians are still keen on the slogan "English ever, Hindi never". Thus a chain reaction starts which will have no end. Hindi chauvinists should be

restrained from acting in such thoughtless fashion; they are not serving but damaging the cause of Hindi. Actually, there has recently been a demand by the Tamil Nadu Government that India's Parliament should officially be made multi-lingual. No language, it is argued, should be allowed to distort the democratic image; democracy means equal opportunity for all and for everything. Campaigns for or against English do not serve any useful purpose. Intolerance betokens arrogance. Linguistic cacophony would be the result if the linguistic fanatics are allowed to carry on their activities without check or restraint. Linguistic fervour is all right, but the realities should be borne in mind. Excessive stress on the use of Hindi may even threaten national integrity because the Southern States may rebel; already, there have been movements in the South against "domination by the North". Must we risk a break-up of the country for the sake of a speedy switchover to Hindi? We should be rational and not hasty. The wider national interests should always get preference.

Beware of Imitation

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The Competition Master

The Art of Solving Problems

All of us must wear a crown of thorns; the only difference between us is at what angle we wear.
—CHRISTOPHER MORLEY

What is a problem ?

Whenever a person finds himself in a novel situation in which he is motivated to achieve a certain goal but in which his progress towards the goal is blocked by some obstacle for which he has no ready-made response, he is confronted with a problem.

Techniques of solving problems

Solution of the problem involves the development of some mode of response which will eliminate the obstacle.

Trial and Error: When the problem is so tough that the individual confronted with it has not a clue or involves relationship that cannot be discovered by thought he may adopt the technique of random trial and error, as in the case of the cat learning to manipulate a latch that would open the door. The trial and error may be carefully planned instead of being random as in the case of Edison's trial of one substance after another in his attempt to find a filament for an incandescent light.

Insight: Some time a problem is solved by insight into it. Insight is defined as "awareness of key relationship". The solution may arrive in a flash or gradually.

Sleeping on it: When confronted with a problem sleep on it, says an old adage. Modern experimental psychology has affirmed that it is sound and constructive advice. The human mind has two layers—the conscious which lies above the surface; and the subconscious,

which penetrates into dark, unrealized depths lying far beneath knowledge and memory. "The mind is an ice-berg", says Freud, "it floats only one-seventh of its bulk above water. The conscious mind may be compared to a fountain playing in the sun and falling back into the great subterranean pool of the subconscious from which it rises. The conscious and the subconscious mind supplement each other. The conscious mind works under some measure of control and direction; the subconscious mind cannot be forced. Toss in your problem, leave it to simmer and the odds are that in due course something helpful will seep to the surface. On rare occasions the subconscious mind does the whole job with the magic touch of a genie of the lamp. You go to sleep in a tangle of worry and uncertainty, and wake up to find the solution to your problem, tidy, clear and complete, as if a mental camera shutter had clicked the picture in your mind. More often, however, a deliberate effort of will is needed to take over and finish the subconscious processes.

Think it out: To find a positive solution to your problem think over it in a quiet atmosphere. Concentrate on the problem. Rivet your attention on it. Gather information from every source on similar situations. You may come across a solution which looks promising but has been discarded as it did not work. Perhaps it is left for you to adopt it by a little extra gimmick so that it does ring the bell. If you are

still at sea and baffled, give your imagination a chance. Try random thinking; toy with any wild or ridiculous ideas remotely connected with your problem, and see what comes out. There was a problem: "How to get rid of washing plates?" A prize was offered; and the winning solution was that plates should be made of an edible substance and eaten at the end of meal. Good answer. May be: but was it so different from the bright idea which brought a fortune to a Syrian chief—the ice-cream cone?

Forget it: If the above techniques misfire forget the whole thing for the time being. Switch on to something totally unrelated like trying out a new recipe, mowing the lawn or visiting a local circus. Treat it as a diversion of traffic till road blocks are cleared. While you ignore your problem, your mind will keep operating on it, unconsciously and undirected. The solution may emerge like opening of "charmed magic easements". As a psychologist has it, such an interlude may serve as an incubation period and when you return to your problem you may find that new ideas have crystallized.

Right Perspective: See your problems as opportunities. Problems are always coming into the lives of each one of us. They will make you unhappy and frustrated if you see them as stumbling blocks, but they will bring rich blessings if you see them in their true light as opportunities.

Once Edison was seeking a

solvent for hard rubber. Other scientists were also engaged in the same effort. Whereas they were seeking the solution to their problem through theory and formula, Edison proceeded along a more direct route. He went to his impressive and remarkably complete store-room of chemicals where he immersed a small fragment of hard rubber in a vial of each one of these many chemicals. The number was enormous but he stuck to it and eventually found the solvent.

Take the bull by the horns: When faced by problems meet them fearlessly, and do not try to evade them. The bull must be taken by the horns. The behaviour of Mr Padsnap in Charles Dickens' "Our Mutual Friend" was the limit of silliness.

"Mr Padsnap settled that whatever he put behind him he put out of existence.....Mr Padsnap had even acquired a peculiar flourish of his right arm in often clearing the world of its most difficult problems by sweeping them behind him."

Problems are to be dealt with. You cannot escape the fact. Trying to avoid a problem is an unrealistic attitude.

Don't delay: Tackle your problems without delay. Putting off an easy problem makes it hard, and putting off a hard problem makes it impossible. Procrastination—deferring things from day to day—wastes a lot of time and usually ends in nothing being done at all. An old boat-man was asked "If a man fell this pier would he be drowned?" "No", he said, "it's not falling into water that drowns a man; it's staying there."

Buck passing: Your problem is your own funeral. Any attempt to push it on to others is doomed to failure. Take the responsibility on your shoulders and it will leave no room for

chips. Each one of us has to work out his own destiny. In the ultimate analysis you and you alone can supply the vital energy and determination that will solve your problems and lift you out of the net and into the race. A fable says that a mouse was in constant distress because of its fear of the cat. Immediately it became afraid of the dog. So the magician turned it into a dog. Immediately it began to fear the tiger. So the magician turned it into a tiger. Immediately it began to fear the hunter. Then the magician said, "Be a mouse again, you have only the heart of a mouse and I cannot help you."

Positive Reaction: React positively to the problem confronting you. Accept it as a challenge—something which gives an opportunity of showing the stuff you are made of, toughening your character and of stealing your heart as you tackle it. Refuse to be bowled over by it or stay bowled over.

Expectant attitude: While tackling your problems maintain a calm, confident, expectant attitude. As Dr N.V. Peale points out much of our failure complex is not really concerned with the formidable situations but with the build-up of "little negatives" like 'I don't think I can do that' or 'I'll never get through this job.' Conversely, positives have a powerful effect on building up a hopeful approach to problems of life. To say, "It's going to be good" (or "Everything's turning out fine") is a sure way of evoking the law of positive effects.

Dr Ernest Jones tells us that Freud, father of psycho-analysis had absolute confidence in ultimate success and happiness. "We shall get through all right", is the kind of mark that recurs. "I can see I need not be anxious about the final success of my efforts, it is purely a matter of how long it will take." Said

Freud, "I am a virtuoso in finding the good side of things."

Don't be discouraged if every shot is not a bull's eye. Never throw up the sponge. Yehudi Menuhin, the great violinist—one of the few great figures of 20th century who is a legend in his own time—in his recent "Autobiography" refers to his two inspiring mottoes: "I have never resigned myself", and "My life has been spent in creating utopias." From his refusal to resign we can draw courage to keep on striving till we have surmounted our difficulties. The message of hopeful striving is classically expressed in Clough's well-known lines which bear quotation:

Say not the struggle not
 availeth,
The labour and the wounds
 are vain,
The enemy faints not, nor
 faileth,
And as things have been,
 things remain
And not by eastern windows
 only,
When daylight comes, comes
 in the light
In the front the sun climbs
 slow how slowly,
But westward look, the land
 is bright.

Economic Scene

(Contd. from page 642)

public sector to play the role of a prime mover and a pacesetter in investment. The need of the hour is to stimulate demand for the under-utilized resources. As Mr Jha puts it: "To make the horse drink, it is not enough to place water within its reach. He must be made to feel thirsty". The resources are there, and in an adequate measure. The demand for their proper utilization must be created by the State even through deficit financing if that be necessary.

Argumentative Questions ON CURRENT PROBLEMS

- Hanging of Mr Bhutto
- Justice is Only for the Rich
- Should TV have Advertisements ?
- Administrative Tribunals
- Is there Slavery in Modern India ?

Hanging of Mr Bhutto

Q. "The hanging of Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto is a foul deed for which Gen Zia-ul-Haque will have to pay a heavy price." Do you accept this view? Give reasons for and against it.

Ans. Early on April 4, Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, former President and Prime Minister of Pakistan, was hanged in Rawalpindi jail following the refusal of General Zia-ul-Haque to grant him clemency despite the earnest appeals to him by world statesmen and several Governments to save the condemned man's life by commuting the death sentence to life imprisonment. The shocking and dastardly deed was condemned all over the world, and there was great revulsion against what was described by some commentators as a "judicial murder". Even the Chinese threat to cut off economic and military aid to Pakistan if Mr Bhutto was hanged was ignored by General Zia. The Pakistan commander seemed determined to eliminate a strong political rival who might have been an obstacle in the fulfilment of his personal ambitions. Was the execution and implementation of the death sentence awarded by the Pakistan Supreme Court justified?

Arguments For the view (against hanging)

1. The Pakistan Supreme Court's verdict was 4-3, which showed that three of the Judges held Mr Bhutto not guilty of the charge of conspiracy to murder. When there is a split judgement by a court on the issue of murder, the alleged culprit is not hanged or executed but his sentence is commuted. The manner in which an exception was made in Mr Bhutto's case showed that Gen Zia had ulterior motives and that he has committed a folly.

2. Mr Bhutto commanded considerable support in Pakistan; his Pakistan People's Party and his influential family are unlikely to accept the grave injustice done to their leader and head. The widespread belief is that some supporter of Bhutto will sooner or later murder Gen Zia to seek revenge. Gen Zia's life is not safe now and there is no doubt that he has committed a foul deed.

3. Apart from the grave danger in which Gen Zia has put himself by getting Mr Bhutto hanged, there is also the serious danger to the stability and integrity of Pakistan that has now arisen as a result of the hanging. Pakistan is bound to

face trouble on many counts. There will be trouble in western and northern regions of that country which have already been feeling restless and where the people are discontented and frustrated for many reasons.

4. By displeasing close friends such as China and Saudi Arabia, which have been among Pakistan's principal supporters, Gen Zia has endangered the massive aid which his country was getting from these sources. If not for his own sake, at least for the sake of the interests of Pakistan Gen Zia should not have committed the blunder of hanging Mr Bhutto.

5. Gen Zia has refused to learn from history which teaches the vital lesson that dictators do not last long and that the people's voice ultimately triumphs. For the present he has managed to control the situation by posting army units everywhere, but such suppression and oppression cannot be made permanent features of life. In fact, all such measures may boomerang on the thoughtless Martial Law commander.

6. Gen Zia has also exposed himself to a new power tussle in the Pakistan Army in which, according to reports,

opinion was divided. Gen Zia seems to have risked the Army's anger. If the Army's support is eroded, his leadership of the country will be in grave danger.

7. Gen Zia also forgot that the image of a martyr which Mr Bhutto has now acquired might become a strong rallying point at the general election in Pakistan scheduled for November 17 next. Thus the risks he has taken are many; the gain very limited.

Arguments Against the view (in defence of Gen Zia's action)

1. The laws of Pakistan provide that conspiracy to murder anyone, whether the intended victim is killed or not, is a crime deserving the capital punishment. So, the hanging of Mr Bhutto was perfectly legal and in accordance with the laws of the country which Mr Bhutto had ruled firmly.

2. Law and justice lose all respect if a distinction is made between man and man. Mr Bhutto was a VIP, but he could not, for that reason, claim clemency when any other ordinary citizen of Pakistan would have met with the same fate if he had committed the same crime. The law is the same for everyone. Gen Zia also felt he was performing a duty dictated by tenets of Islam.

3. The judiciary of Pakistan, and possibly of other countries, would have felt (if Mr Bhutto had not been hanged) that its prestige had been lowered by the failure of the executive to accept the verdict of the highest court of the land. Besides, Mr Bhutto had been found guilty of murder conspiracy by both the High Court (March 18, 1978) and the Supreme Court. The latter court's verdict on the review appeal (on March 24, 1979) was unanimous.

4. Mr Bhutto claimed to be innocent, but he never specifically denied that he had not

been a party to a conspiracy; the circumstantial evidence also showed that he had prompted some people to eliminate his political rivals. As you sow, so shall you reap, says a proverb. Gen Zia has eliminated his rival just as ruthlessly as Mr Bhutto had eliminated many of his adversaries.

Justice is Only for the Rich

Q. "It is easier for a camel to pass through a needle's eye (to quote a phrase from the Bible) than for a poor man to get justice." Give arguments *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. Although the vast majority of litigants in India's courts belong to the masses, mostly rural, there seems to be some basis for the belief that it is difficult for poor people to get justice through the courts. The country has an elaborate judicial system; there are courts of all types, sizes and hues, but denial of justice seems to have been built into the system. Only the rich can afford all the expenditure, direct and indirect, required to get justice in their cases. The poor have neither the time nor the money to conduct prolonged court battles. They have to earn their livelihood and those who somehow carry on litigation for several years become paupers at the end of the process, the lawyers alone emerging as the principal gainers. Most of them fatten themselves at the cost of their clients.

Arguments For the view

1. The process of justice is so elaborate and so expensive and time-consuming that it has become a luxury of the rich. The poor cannot afford to pay the expenses, the lawyers' mounting fees, the court clerks' demands; nor do they have the time required to pursue the cases through the various stages. The rich people engage lawyers

and other agents to pursue their cases. The poor get frustrated and give up the hope of getting justice even when they are in the right and their genuine rights have been adversely affected.

2. There are numerous loopholes in the laws, and the rich manage to make the best of such loopholes by getting the advice of top lawyers who can exploit the legal quibbling. Most of the magistrates and Judges are easily influenced by top lawyers many of whom win their clients' cases through their personality, prestige and influence.

3. The gross injustice done to thousands of people who are detained by the police and kept as under-trials for years together has recently been exposed by the National Police Commission which enquired into, among other things, the conditions in the country's jails. A senior member of the Police Commission expressed the view that "the majority of the people in the country's jails ought not to be there", and also that "the majority of those who ought to be in jail are living outside as free men." The implication is clear: innocent people are imprisoned, and guilty people manage to escape arrest and punishment. This is a sorry reflection on India's judiciary.

4. Even worse is the case of thousands of under-trials who have been rotting in jail mostly because they are too poor to pay for getting justice. Their cases linger on and on for years together, while their families virtually starve. Most of them have been in detention longer than the period of tough sentences for such crimes as they might have committed. Over 80,000 prisoners have not been charged in courts yet; they are languishing in police custody!

5. Court clerks manage to "lose" the relevant files, and these files are brought out only

when someone greases their palms; the lawyers, with the connivance of many magistrates, get repeated adjournments of cases, thus causing further burdens on the poor who cannot afford the fees of good lawyers. In countless cases, poor litigants are thus purposely starved and forced to quit, by prolonging their cases.

Arguments Against the view

1. It is true that the system of courts in India is very elaborate and the cost of legal suits is high, but it is wrong to say that justice is denied in most cases. In fact, the masses still have full confidence in the impartiality of the judiciary; if the masses had lost confidence in the courts, they would not have filed more and more legal suits every year. In fact, the cases before the courts are mounting fast and the number of Judges and magistrates has proved insufficient, so heavy is the "cause list" each day.

2. Under the existing law, any person who does not have the financial means to pursue his case has the right to ask the court for assistance. The Government itself provides legal aid where the poverty of the concerned person is known and established. So, the poor can seek justice at Government expense. If litigants do not seek such concession, it means they can afford to pay the expenses. Most of the farmers file legal suits soon after selling their harvest and when they have money to pay the lawyers.

3. The network of courts and the legal provision allowing appeals from one court to another, and finally to the Supreme Court, is designed to ensure that justice is not denied to any one as a result of an arbitrary assessment of a case by any magistrate or Judge. The principle—it is better that a thousand persons should escape scot-free rather than that one innocent

person should be punished is a sound one.

Should TV have Advertisements?

Q. "TV is bad enough for children and youth; advertisements on TV are worse and should be banned." Give arguments For and Against this view.

Ans. Television stations are obviously a luxury for a poor country like India where 50 per cent of the people can barely earn a living. Is it fair that a small percentage of the population, say less than one per cent, should be provided with a luxury at the cost of the community as a whole? After all, the total expenditure on TV stations and on broadcasting programmes, running into crores, is met out of Government revenues, which means public money, including the poorest taxpayer's contribution. As for advertisements, these are costly diversions which are designed to persuade people to buy things, mostly luxuries, even when they cannot afford to pay for them. TV advertisements have a bad effect on children; they are tempted to go in for goods without which they can easily lead a normal life. For parents such advertisements prove costly because their children start demanding things publicised through advertisements, and they fall to the temptations thus offered.

Arguments For

1. In countries such as Britain where TV and advertising have made rapid progress, there has lately been a feeling of disgust against advertisements directed especially at children who are vulnerable or susceptible to such visual influences. Even the British Government has been thinking of placing a curb on such advertisements. India should learn a lesson and act in time to prevent the damage to the social structure at the

youth level where the danger of developing false notions of life is the greatest.

2. The Independent Broadcasting Authority in the U.K. has already issued an order that "advertisements must not directly urge children to purchase, or ask their parents or others to make enquiries about such goods and make purchases, whether on an instalment basis or otherwise. This applied particularly to newly manufactured modern toys, household gadgets and electronic or electrical appliances of various types.

3. The world's principal "invisible persuaders" (advertisements and propaganda) feed themselves on suggestions that prompt belief and speedy action. The suggestion may be visual, verbal or printed, but the effect is the same, namely, persuasion to spend needlessly, (through alluring and tempting publicity) which is unhealthy economically.

4. Advertising of cigarettes and intoxicating articles, including liquor (where these are permitted) often leads to the encouragement of smoking and drinking; young people begin to believe that these are harmless habits and that they must learn to be "modern" and march with the times instead of being old-fashioned and "backward". While the cigarette manufacturers expand their markets through TV, society as a whole suffers in health and social standards.

Arguments Against

1. Young people are more interested in films and other interesting TV programmes than in advertisements; in fact, most of the children find advertisements an unwelcome interruption in the regular TV programmes and want them to be eliminated. So it is pointless to argue that advertisements have a bad effect on children and youth.

2. If TV advertisements are to be banned because of their supposed adverse effect on the people's domestic budgets and the temptations to buy things, we might as well ban the attractive display of things in shop windows, exhibitions, newspapers and magazines. One might even argue that such window displays also have a bad effect on children !

3. Education and advertising experts have found, after a good deal of research, that advertising through TV and newspapers have a good educational value.

4. Children press their parents to buy them certain articles when they notice other children having them; comparisons are made and instances are quoted to show to their parents that they are not getting the facilities and things which other people's children get. The trend to imitate and the human weakness to copy others so as not to be left behind and to "keep up with the Joneses (neighbours) is even more harmful. How can this be banned?

5. TV advertising is a costly business, and only the leading manufacturers of standard goods can afford to publicise their products on TV. There is much less chance of deception or of misleading claims in respect of such articles. Moreover, such advertisements bring in good revenue to the Government and this income is utilised for providing better programmes for entertaining people and providing them instruction in various ways.

6. Moreover, the best way to develop a sense of discrimination among children is not to avoid advertisements but to help in developing a sense of discrimination between good and bad, between necessities and luxuries.

Administrative Tribunals

Q. The provision in the much-criticised 42nd Constitution Amendment Bill providing for the establishment of Administrative Tribunals was among the overdue changes and the Desai Government has done well in deciding to set up such tribunals. Give arguments *For* and *Against* this view.

A n s. Administrative Tribunals exist in several countries, especially in France. These are designed to resolve the disputes involving the civil services and to redress their grievances against heads of departments or the Government in respect of their service conditions, etc. The redress of such grievances through the normal courts and other such bodies takes an unduly long time. The provision for Administrative Tribunals in the 42nd Constitution Amendment, passed during the Emergency period, was welcomed by the civil servant, but they were disappointed when they found that the Janata Government, headed by Mr Morarji Desai, had decided to eliminate the provision through the 45th Constitution (Amendment) Bill which it sponsored and which was passed by the Lok Sabha where the Janata Party commands a majority. However the Rajya Sabha, where the Congress still commands a majority, amended the Constitution Bill and restored the provision for setting up Administrative Tribunals as it existed in the earlier measure. On second thoughts the Lok Sabha accepted the changes (one of the six) in the Constitution Bill made by the upper house. Since then the Janata Government has itself decided to establish such Tribunals as early as possible, thus reversing its earlier stand on the issue.

Arguments For

1. The Administrative Reforms Commission had suggest-

ed the appointment of such tribunals over a decade ago, but the proposal had been kept pending by the Government for many years until 1976. Mr Morarji Desai himself was in favour of such tribunals. The Commission had sound reasons for making the proposal.

2. Administrative Tribunals reduce the inordinate delays involved in the normal court procedures. In many cases civil servants having specific grievances have to wait for several years before their suits are decided finally. By that time the demotions, dismissals or other disciplinary actions have done much needless damage, at times ruining the careers of some civil servants.

3. The Government wishes to assure the civil servants (many of whom were demoralised by the proceedings of the Shah Commission and had declined to show any initiative because of the fear that they might later be taken to task for carrying out Ministers' directives) that their rights would be respected. Administrative Tribunals offer a guarantee that justice will be done to the bureaucracy.

4. The jurisdiction of the courts has not been completely taken away. They can still entertain writ petitions, though civil servants who cannot afford prolonged litigation in courts will be at liberty to take their complaints to such Tribunals.

5. The Administrative Reforms Commission had suggested that the Tribunals should be presided over by people who are, or have been, Judges of High Courts. Each Tribunal will also include an eminent member of the public so as to facilitate the projection of the public standpoint also.

Arguments Against

1. Administrative Tribunals were one of the "ghosts of the Emergency"; they will tend

to disturb the delicate balance between the Executive and the Judiciary.

2. Administrative Tribunals are likely to be amenable to pressure by the bureaucracy; officers' interests will be fully protected even when they have committed wrongs and deserve punishment. Decisions may not be taken on merit alone since administrators' sympathy will always be with their fellow civil servants. Consequently, the common citizen's cause may suffer.

3. In several important matters, including service cases, and taxation, the jurisdiction of High Courts will be substituted by jurisdiction of Tribunals.

4. The very principle of establishing separate tribunals for civil servants is objectionable. On that analogy, postal workers, insurance staff, factory labourers and office clerks may also demand that their cases be heard by committees or tribunals consisting mostly of people having sympathy with them. It is futile to expect justice in such cases; it would be a strange type of justice doled out by people who have prejudices in favour of the complainants. All this would be an adverse reflection on the impartiality of the ordinary courts, especially the higher courts.

Is there Slavery in Modern India?

Q. A foreign commentator said recently that there are 30,000,000 slaves in India today. Do you agree with this assessment? Give reasons *For* and *Against* the foreigner's view.

Ans. The institution of slavery is regarded as uncivilised, cruel and totally out of tune with modern concepts of equality of human beings, democracy and justice. Slaves used to be openly bought and sold in seve-

ral countries, particularly Arab countries, but that was a long time ago and the modern world is supposed to have eliminated this social evil. But slavery does exist in another manner; it is indeed as soul-killing as the old forms, though there is a general denial of its continued existence. There are millions of intelligent men and women who have become so accustomed to human degradation and new forms of slavery that their minds have become coarse and callous; they do not *resent* intense poverty, suffering and inhumanity. They are indifferent also to the continued sapping of the spirit of humanity. These instances remind one of the fact that the glory and majesty of ancient Greece and Rome, apart from that of Egypt, had a system of widespread slavery. So it is pointless to deny the existence of this evil; the extent of the evil is, however, a matter of controversy.

Arguments For the view

1. Since the foreign commentator had in view what are called "bonded labourers" in this country, it is futile to contend that slavery does not exist here. This system, under which countless people *serve* their masters in repayment of loans taken by their ancestors decades ago, continues in several parts of the country, in spite of a legal ban on such obligations.

2. There are lakhs of cases where a poor landless labourer, in urgent need of money, begs a landlord or a Sahukar to lend him some money and, in return, offers the services of his children. Such "slaves" are domestic or farm servants and are supposed to be free as soon as the principal amount of the loan, along with the interest, is repaid. But the bondage and slavery continues indefinitely through cooked up accounts. The system is inherited; when a person dies in bondage his children are supposed to serve

their master for fulfilment of the same obligation. Even women and girls are thus "bonded" in certain regions, including Madhya Pradesh and Bihar.

3. During the Emergency imposed by Mrs Indira Gandhi, bonded labour was abolished by the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, but the fact that it continues in various forms shows that the evil is deep-rooted. For some time the bonded labourers became bold and broke off their chains, but soon they were back again on finding that their existence in the village was virtually impossible without having the patronage of affluent persons, landlords and others.

4. The Five-Year Plans, it has now been confirmed even by the Planning Commission, have not conferred material benefits on the poor people. The benefits of planning have been confined, by and large, to people who were already affluent. So, poverty continues and, with it, the necessity of poor people borrowing money from the rich, and then, on finding it difficult to return the loans, to pledge human labour often for generations.

5. Even the Gandhi Peace Foundation and the National Labour Institute have confirmed, after studies, that there are about 3 crore bonded slaves in eight States of India.

Arguments Against

1. While stray cases of "bonded labour" may exist here and there, it is an obvious exaggeration to say that there are 3 crore such "slaves" in the country today. Owing to poverty, some families do pledge their services to landlords to return the loans in kind when cash is not available, but with progress and general enlightenment such blind slavery is becoming rare and is being gradually eliminated. Even poor and supposedly
(Contd. on page 678)

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade examinations. Thoughts of certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

**Success ! to thee as to a god,
men bend the knee.**

—ÆSCYLUS

The successful man by his very success gains a stature and becomes the cynosure of neighbouring eyes. He who was a nonentity yesterday is looked up to because he is ascending the ladder. In history as in life it is success that counts. Start a political upheaval and let yourself be caught and you will be hanged as a traitor. But place yourself at the head of a rebellion and gain your point and all future generations will worship you as the Father of their country. The English poet, Shelley, was rusticated by the Oxford University. Later when fame came to him, some of it in his life-time and much more posthumous, the same University celebrated in 1922 the centenary of his death trumpeting that Shelley was once its alumnus. Hargobind Khorana when in India had to go from pillar to post in search of a job but when his theory of Genes won him the Nobel Prize honours descended on him thick and fast, some of them from India too! The words of Einstein at the time he published his theory are memorable: "If my theory of Relativity is proven successful, Germany will claim me as a German and France will declare that I am a citizen of the world. Should my theory prove untrue, France will say that I am a German, and Germany will declare that I am a Jew."

**The mate for beauty should
be a man, and not a money chest.**

—LYTTON

Some people are so blinded by avarice that even the holiest of sentiments, love, is spelt by them as love. Leave out the idealists and visionaries, most marriages in our country are marriages of convenience. Financial status is the fulcrum on which the relationship depends. In the matrimonial columns of an Indian newspaper, the prospective bride-groom more often than not underscores his income and property. Fish are caught with lures, birds with crumbs and women with bank-balances. We quote with pride the verse from Manu "Where women are honoured, there the gods are mightily pleased." But there is a glaring gap between precept and practice. Young girls in the prime of their youth and beauty are yoked by foolish (and may be greedy) fathers to old cronies whose only qualification is that they are bag-barons. Pot-bellied scrip-holders are tied in wedlock to delicate damsels. What dreams are shattered, what visions are thrown over-board! Prior to Independence, the Maharajahs in some States, by sheer power of pelf could order women about, scores and scores of them. It was a sordid tale of the vulture pouncing on the dove. History is repeating itself in the Middle East, the land of the oil Barons.

**Don't use that foreign word
'ideals'? We have the excellent**

native word 'lies'.

—IBSEN

A cynic divided the whole of mankind into two categories, hypocrites and fools. The hypocrites pose as purveyors of virtue, morality and ideals and the vast majority of people, gulls and dupes are taken in. Religion has been particularly the happy hunting-ground for these hypocrites. The ungracious pastor shows others the steep and thorny way to heaven while himself treads the primrose path of dalliance. Not that such liars and hypocrites are confined to religion. They are everywhere. People pretending to wealth when they have not a six-pence; assuming knowledge of which they are ignorant; shamming a culture they are far removed from; adopting opinions they do not hold: all these are allotropic forms of shams and lies. There is the case of a temperance lecturer whose eloquence was at its best when he had quaffed a whole bottle of liquor. The crafty politician harangues on the evils of corruption but himself is in league with business magnates and even in their pay. The Devil casts his net very wide. The doctor poisons the very patient whose life he should try his best to save; the lawyer deserts his client in mid-stream, being bribed by the other party; the teacher helps a candidate inside the examination hall; the car-driver murders innocent children who had asked him for a lift. O Lord! what crooks these
(Contd. on page 678)

Intelligence TEST

1. There is a fallacy in this story.

Read it carefully and see if you can spot what is wrong with it. A veteran of the First World War had a dream. He dreamt that he was fighting in Jerusalem on an awfully hot day on December 9, 1917. During the battle he saw enemy Panzer tanks break through into British defences and as he was about to get up and flee, he was hit by a shell. The shock of it was so

- (i) MAADDNOERG
- (ii) YTLASICMAC
- (iii) NSSENEKDNRU
- (iv) FOOTRIDDW
- (v) SHONEPXAO

4. Dashes have been substituted for the initial letters in each of the eleven words given below. Supply the initial letters in such a way that when read downward, they form a eleven-letter word.

- ABULATE
- AIDING
- BOUND
- INNY
- CREW
- ENETRATING

1. NIFE
2. UHEG
3. LACITNEDI
4. SCULNIMEA
5. EARR

great that he *actually* died in his sleep.

2. Here is a sentence in which all the vowels have been removed. You have to insert vowels so as to make sense of it.

HLFLFSBTTTRTHNNBRD

3. Rearrange the letters on each of the following lines to spell the name of supreme conflict, violent event, intemperance, thing transferred and a musical instrument.

- NNOUNCE
- EPREHEND
- RUDITION
- ORMALITY
- IDAL

5. The words in column A are opposite in meaning to the words in column B in the same series. The spellings of all words are jumbled. Re-arrange the spellings and state the number of choice which gives the last letter of the correct word:—

B

SEARCHO,
ALMSL
TNEGREVID
NAMFFEEETI
LAUSU

Example: EARR and LAUSU when re-arranged will read RARE and USUAL which are opposite in meaning.

Choices:

- | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|
| 1A: (i)E | (ii)I | (iii)F |
| B: (i)C | (ii)R | (iii)E |
| 2A: (i)U | (ii)G | (iii)E |
| B: (i)L | (ii)A | (iii)S |
| 3A: (i)L | (ii)I | (iii)E |
| B: (i)D | (ii)T | (iii)E |
| 4A: (i)M | (ii)E | (iii)U |
| B: (i)E | (ii)F | (iii)N |

6. Which does not conform?

7. There are two film stars. One is the father of the other's son. What is the relationship of the two with each other?

8. Insert the word that completes the first word and starts the second.

H (...) AMAN

9. What is the next number?

1 12 23

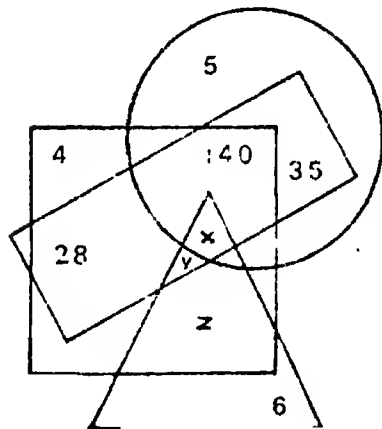
10. Insert the appropriate arithmetical signs between the numbers to obtain the result given at the end.

- (a) $20 \ 29 \ 21 = 70$
 (b) $99 \ 49 \ 11 = 39$

11. Supply the missing number.

- 175 (576) 463
 192 () 357

12. Give the values of X, Y and Z.



13. Insert the missing number.

- 7/9 18 24 51 — 150 204

14. A bus is travelling at a speed of 75 km per hour. How long will it take to travel 15 km?

- Choices: (a) 20 mts (b) 24 mts
 (c) 12 mts (d) 30 mts

15. Complete the sentences.

(a) As kilogram is to weight, cubic centimeter is to—

(b) As psychology is to mind, trigonometry is to—

16. Write one word for the following sentences.

- (a) A bird of passage.
 (b) One who can't be elected according to law.
 (c) Something that is present everywhere.
 (d) Something which is no longer in use.

17. If BOY means 2.15.25, what does GIRL mean?

18. Complete the following.

(a) Bullet is to.....as arrow is to bow.

(b) Lamb is to.....as kitten is to cat.

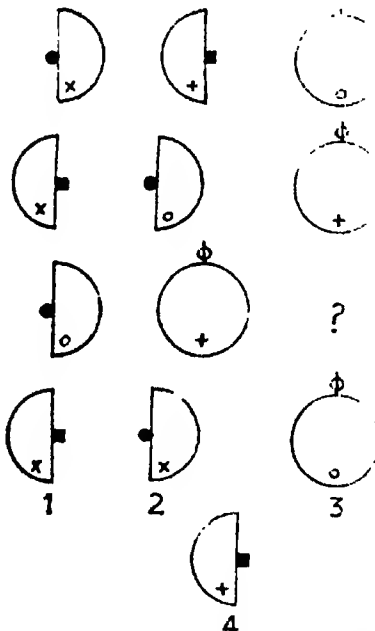
(c) 10 is to.....as 100 is to century.

(d) Sister is to.....as brother is to father.

19. Which pair is different from the others.

- (a) Abiding and constant.
 (b) Fixed and stable.
 (c) Fugitive and fleeting.
 (d) Indestructible and imperishable.

20. Select the correct figure from the four numbered ones.



21. Which of the following statements is wrong?

(a) A soft metal may be hardened by alloying it with another metal or non-metal.

(b) Alloys containing copper may be white.

(c) Silver plated copper articles contain an alloy of copper and silver.

(d) Alloys containing carbon are grey or black.

22. Complete the sequence.

A C F — O U

23. In which sports are the terms 'screw back' and 'gambit' used?

24. Who created Mr Sampath?

25. There are animals hiding between words. See if you can find them.

Example: Do not criticize bravado too readily. (Answer: Zebra.)

Now seek out the rest.

(a) The enormous entrance dwarfed him.

(b) A classic attraction was the art exhibit.

Answers and Explanations

1. Hot day in December and Panzer tanks in 1917 are but red herrings. Main point is, how would we know what the veteran was dreaming if he *actually* died in his sleep.

2. HALF A LOAF IS BETTER THAN NO BREAD.

3. (i) Armageddon (ii) Cataclysmic (iii) Drunkenness (iv) Driftwood (v) Saxophone.

4. TRANSPARENT.

5. 1A: (i), 1B: (iii); 2A: (iii), 2B: (i); 3A: (i), 3B: (ii); 4A: (ii), 4B: (i).

6. E. (Acute angles have symbols at the end of the lines, as shown in the first row. Obtuse angles and right angles have different symbols. In the second row the colours of the symbols are reversed—black becoming white and white becoming black—and in the third row they are reversed again.

Therefore, in E the circle and square are the wrong colours.)

7. Husband and wife.

8. AND.

9. 34. (Numbers progress by 11 at each step.)

10. (a) + + (b) — —

11. 330. (The number inside the brackets is twice the difference of the two numbers outside.)

!Contd. on page 678)

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examination for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice out of the choices given below each question. More than one choice can be correct.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. On March 26, Egypt and Israel signed a treaty of peace at:

- (a) Washington
- (b) Cairo
- (c) Tel Aviv
- (d) Jerusalem

2. Dr B.C. Roy awards are given for outstanding contribution in the field of:

- (a) physics
- (b) chemistry
- (c) medicine
- (d) biology

3. Karakoram Highway is an all-weather road linking:

- (a) Pakistan with Iran
- (b) Pakistan with China
- (c) Pakistan with Soviet Union
- (d) China with Vietnam

4. St Lucia, the small Caribbean island which achieved independence on February 21, 1979, has been under:

- (a) French rule for 165 years
- (b) Spanish rule for 165 years
- (c) British rule for 165 years
- (d) German rule

5. The new name of Cambodia is:

- (a) Cambozia
- (b) Kambojia
- (c) Kampuchea
- (d) Carobia

6. In India, people who live below poverty line account for nearly:

- (a) 250 million
- (b) 350 million
- (c) 450 million
- (d) 500 million

7. The U.S. space probe Voyager-I is hurtling through space at a speed of:

- (a) one million kilometres a day
- (b) two million kilometres a day
- (c) three million kilometres a day

8. The U.S. space probe Voyager-I made its closest approach on March 5, 1979, to the planet:

- (a) Saturn
- (b) Mars
- (c) Jupiter
- (d) Neptune

9. Which of the following military blocs has been dissolved recently:

- (a) SEATO
- (b) NATO
- (c) CENTO

10. The International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems is known as:

- (a) Macbride Commission
- (b) ISPCO
- (c) ICAO
- (d) UPU

CIVICS

11. A person is eligible to stand for the election of Rajya Sabha provided he is not less than:

- (a) 25 years of age
- (b) 30 years of age
- (c) 35 years of age

12. The Constitution has laid down that the two Houses must be summoned at least:

- (a) twice a year
- (b) thrice a year
- (c) once a year

13. The role of the administrative service is to:

- (a) provide help to the Ministers
- (b) lay down the policy of the government
- (c) provide the vital element of stability and continuity in the government

14. The Chairman and member of the election commission can be removed from the office:

- (a) by the Prime Minister
- (b) by the Judge of Supreme Court
- (c) by the same procedure as is laid down for the removal of the Judges of Supreme Court

15. A temporary tax levied to obtain revenue for some project is called:

- (a) cess
- (b) Sales tax
- (c) Revenue tax

16. India's position in the Commonwealth was accepted by the Prime Ministers of the other Commonwealth countries at a conference held in:

- (a) Edmonton
- (b) London
- (c) Yorkshire
- (d) Perth

17. The Commonwealth countries are not bound to join in a war in which Britain is involved. Which one of the following Commonwealth countries remained neutral during Second World War:

- (a) India
- (b) Ireland
- (c) Burma

18. A Village Panchayat is elected by:

- (a) all inhabitants of a village above 21 years of age
- (b) only male members of all the families living in a village
- (c) Gram Sabha consisting of the entire adult population of a village

19. Members of the Rajya Sabha:

- (a) can be associated with the Estimates Committee of the Parliament
- (b) cannot be associated with the Estimates Committee of the Parliament

20. A Money Bill can be introduced in Parliament only on:

- (a) President's recommendation
- (b) Prime Minister's recommendation
- (c) Speaker's recommendation

HISTORY

21. The whole empire of Sher Shah was divided into:

- (a) 47 Sarkars or units
- (b) 57 Sarkars or units
- (c) 40 Sarkars or units
- (d) 50 Sarkars or units

22. The second battle of Panipat was fought between:

- (a) Akbar and Hemu, the Chief Minister of Adil Shah Suri
- (b) Akbar and Mirza Muhammad Hakim
- (c) Akbar and Bairam Khan

23. Akbar had his kingdom divided into 15 provinces. These provinces were called:

- (a) Parganas
- (b) Sarkars
- (c) Subas

24. Jahangir's full name was:

- (a) Nur-ud-Din Jahangir
- (b) Ala-ud-Din Jahangir
- (c) Salim-ud-Din Jahangir

25. The original name of Nur Jahan was:

- (a) Nur Mahal
- (b) Mehr-ul-Nisa
- (c) Ladli Begum

26. Shah Jehan ruled from:

- (a) 1628—1658 A.D.
- (b) 1627—1659 A.D.
- (c) 1627—1658 A.D.
- (d) 1628—1659 A.D.

27. Aurangzeb reimposed the Jazia Tax on Hindus in:

- (a) 1680
- (b) 1657
- (c) 1679

28. Guru Arjan Dev was executed by Jahangir in:

- (a) 1606 A.D.
- (b) 1607 A.D.
- (c) 1605 A.D.

29. Shivaji was born in 1627 A.D. at:

- (a) Shivner
- (b) Pune
- (c) Bombay

30. Shivaji was crowned as Chhatrapati at:

- (a) Pune
- (b) Raigarh
- (c) Kalinjar

31. Shivaji was crowned as Chhatrapati on:

- (a) June 16, 1674
- (b) June 18, 1674
- (c) June 16, 1680
- (d) June 18, 1680

32. Hazrat Khwaja Muin-ud-Din Chishti was buried at:

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Ajmer
- (c) Bijapur

33. Baba Farid was a great:

- (a) Sufi Saint
- (b) Parsi Saint
- (c) Hindu Saint

34. Kabir was brought up by a Muslim weaver:

- (a) Niru
- (b) Iqbal
- (c) Nasir-ud-Din

35. Guru Nanak died in 1538 A.D. at the age of:

- (a) 69
- (b) 70
- (c) 68

36. Chaitanya Mahaprabhu was born in:

- (a) 1486 A.D.
- (b) 1586 A.D.
- (c) 1485 A.D.

37. The historian Zia-ud-Din Barni was a contemporary of:

- (a) Akbar
- (b) Sher Shah
- (c) Muhammad Tughlaq

38. The Buland Darwaza was built to mark Akbar's conquest of:

- (a) Malwa
- (b) Chittor
- (c) Gujarat

39. The first Mughal Emperor to show interest in painting was:

- (a) Humayun

- (b) Akbar
- (c) Shah Jehan

40. The Hauz Khas was built by:

- (a) Ala-ud-Din Khilji
- (b) Firoz Shah Tughlaq
- (c) Altmash

GEOGRAPHY

41. Ajanta Caves are located in:

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Tamil Nadu

42. The hydro-electric project constructed to harness the river Periyar is:

- (a) US-aided
- (b) USSR-aided
- (c) Canada-aided

43. Paris is situated on the river:

- (a) Tiber
- (b) Seine
- (c) Danube

44. Manas Sanctuary for rhinoceros in India is located in:

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Assam

45. The Rourkela Steel Plant in Orissa has been set up with the help of:

- (a) Russian engineers
- (b) British engineers
- (c) German engineers

46. Brasillia is the new capital of:

- (a) Australia
- (b) Argentina
- (c) Brazil

47. The Pastoral Nomads of North Africa are called:

- (a) Bedouins
- (b) Tourege
- (c) Bindibu

48. The area around Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie in Great Australian Desert yields large amount of:

- (a) mica
- (b) oil
- (c) gold

49. The capital and chief port of Peru is:

- (a) Iquique
- (b) Lima
- (c) Basra

50. The Prairie regions are known as Pastaz in:

- (a) South America
- (b) Australia
- (c) Hungary

51. Verkhoyansk which is the coldest place in the world is situated in:

- (a) Greenland
- (b) Alaska
- (c) Siberia (U.S.S.R.)

52. The average population density of Tundra Regions is:

- (a) 70 persons per 640 sq. km.
- (b) 1 person per 640 sq. km.
- (c) 1 person per sq. km.
- (d) 5 persons per sq. km.

53. The Prairie regions are lands of:

- (a) dense population
- (b) moderate population
- (c) sparse population

54. Olive and Cork-oak grow in:

- (a) Mediterranean type regions
- (b) Siberian type regions
- (c) Equatorial type regions

55. The most northernly city in the world is:

- (a) Verkhoyansk
- (b) Murmansk
- (c) Fairbanks

56. Firn is called by French as:

- (a) Fjord
- (b) Neve
- (c) Firth

57. A narrow coastal inlet is known as:

- (a) Creek
- (b) Creole
- (c) Crevasse

58. A heavenly body revolving round the sun in an eccentric orbit, consisting of a nucleus and a luminous tale, is called:

- (a) Comet

- (b) Meteor
- (c) Meteorite

59. A depression in a range of mountains or hills is called:

- (a) Col
- (b) Ridge
- (c) Gorge

60. A small waterfall, or a series of falls resembling steps is called:

- (a) Carse
- (b) Cascade
- (c) Canyon

BOOKS AND QUOTATIONS

61. The author of the book "The Animal Farm" is:

- (a) Charles Darwin
- (b) Ernest Hemingway
- (c) George Orwell

62. Who has written "Prison Diary"?

- (a) Morarji Desai
- (b) Jayaprakash Narayan
- (c) Atal Behari Vajpayee

63. The author of *Chittirapavai* is:

- (a) P.V. Akilandam
- (b) Dr D. Ramchandra Bendre
- (c) Vishnu Saktharam Khandekar

64. The author of the book *Yayati* is:

- (a) Hari Narayan Apte
- (b) Vishnu Saktharam Khandekar
- (c) Tikaram Mahay

65. Who said "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever" ?

- (a) Byron
- (b) Keats
- (c) Shelley

66. To whom is the following line ascribed:

- "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweats."
- (a) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (b) Subhash Chander Bose
- (c) Winston Churchill

67. Who said: "The Government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not vanish from the earth" ?

- (a) George Washington
(b) Abraham Lincoln
(c) Winston Churchill
68. Who wrote: "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them" ?
(a) Tolstoy
(b) George Bernard Shaw
(c) William Shakespeare
69. Who wrote: "Whom gods love, die young" ?
(a) Keats
(b) Shelley
(c) Byron
70. Jean Paul Sartre has written his works in:
(a) Russian
(b) French
(c) Spanish
- U.N.O.**
71. A conference was held between April and June 1945 in which the Charter of the U.N.O. was drawn up. This conference was held at:
(a) Chicago
(b) New York
(c) San Francisco
(d) Washington D.C.
72. The Charter of the U.N.O. was drawn up and signed on June 26, 1945 by:
(a) 51 Nations
(b) 41 Nations
(c) 61 Nations
73. The Charter of the U.N.O. came into force on:
(a) September 24, 1945
(b) June 26, 1945
(c) October 24, 1945
74. The International Labour Organisation (I.L.O.) has its headquarters at:
(a) Geneva
(b) Munich
(c) Chicago
(d) Hague
75. Switzerland is:
(a) a member of the U.N.O.
(b) not a member of the U.N.O.
(c) a non-permanent member of the Security Council

76. Taiwan (*Formosa*) is:
(a) a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council
(b) not a member of the U.N.O.
(c) a member of the U.N.O.
77. The number of U.N. Security Council members in addition to five permanent members required to veto an important resolution must be:
(a) two
(b) three
(c) four
78. The U.N. Organisation meant to promote peace and security in the world through education, science and culture is called:
(a) W.H.O.
(b) UNESCO
(c) I.L.O.
79. December 10 is observed as:
(a) World Red Cross Day
(b) Human Rights Day
(c) World Health Day
(d) U.N. Day
80. Which of the following countries has withdrawn from the International Labour Organisation (I.L.O.):
(a) Britain
(b) U.S.S.R.
(c) U.S.A.
(d) France
- SPORTS**
81. The sports term "China-man" is associated with:
(a) Judo
(b) Boxing
(c) Cricket
82. The term "sudden death" is associated with:
(a) Hockey
(b) Football
(c) Boxing
83. Durand Trophy is associated with:
(a) Cricket
(b) Hockey
(c) Football
84. Lakshmi Bai National College of Physical Education is

located at:

- (a) Karnal
(b) Patiala
(c) Gwalior

ANSWERS

(Current Affairs)

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (c) |
| 3. (b) | 4. (c) |
| 5. (c) | 6. (a) |
| 7. (a) | 8. (c) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (a) |

(Civics)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (b) | 12. (a) |
| 13. (c) | 14. (c) |
| 15. (a) | 16. (b) |
| 17. (b) | 18. (c) |
| 19. (b) | 20. (a) |

(History)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 21. (a) | 22. (a) |
| 23. (c) | 24. (a) |
| 25. (b) | 26. (c) |
| 27. (c) | 28. (a) |
| 29. (a) | 30. (b) |
| 31. (a) | 32. (b) |
| 33. (a) | 34. (a) |
| 35. (a) | 36. (c) |
| 37. (c) | 38. (c) |
| 39. (b) | 40. (a) |

(Geography)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 41. (a) | 42. (c) |
| 43. (b) | 44. (c) |
| 45. (c) | 46. (c) |
| 47. (b) | 48. (c) |
| 49. (b) | 50. (c) |
| 51. (c) | 52. (b) |
| 53. (b) | 54. (a) |
| 55. (b) | 56. (b) |
| 57. (a) | 58. (a) |
| 59. (a) | 60. (b) |

(Books and Quotations)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 61. (c) | 62. (b) |
| 63. (a) | 64. (b) |
| 65. (b) | 66. (c) |
| 67. (b) | 68. (c) |
| 69. (c) | 70. (b) |

(U.N.O.)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 71. (c) | 72. (a) |
| 73. (c) | 74. (a) |
| 75. (b) | 76. (b) |
| 77. (c) | 78. (b) |
| 79. (b) | 80. (c) |

(Sports)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 81. (c) | 82. (a) |
| 83. (c) | 84. (c) |

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Mistakes, if any, occur in the numbered portions of the sentences given below. Indicate them by their number.

(a) You had better *seen* a doctor (1) if you are still *feeling ill* tomorrow (2).

(b) If he *took a little more time* (1) to think, he might have *acted more sensibly* (2).

(c) Although the guns *were raging all round* (1) neither I nor my neighbour *were touched* (2).

(d) I *have never* (1) and *never will shirk my duties* (2).

(e) I wanted him to *paint in blue* (1) but he *paints the green house* (2).

(f) He *wore a frightened look* (1) and told me that he *saw a snake in the pond* (2).

(g) I met the boy *whom you said* (1) won the prize and *whom you love so dearly* (2).

(h) He *drove the car so fastly* (1) that every moment there was a *danger of accident* (2).

(i) Such language *that he employed* (1) *does not behove* (2) a gentleman.

(j) He lost his only son *which made him* (1) *mad with grief* (2).

Q. II. In each of ten groups of sentences the head-word has been used in three different ways. Point out the correct use.

(a) **Intensive**

1. Due to intensive heat, the leaves withered.

2. What we need today is intensive cultivation of our fields.

3. Mathematics is a subject which demands intensive study.

(b) **Resource**

1. I could not persuade him to divulge his resource of information.

2. Unless we take resource to family planning all our plans will go away.

3. The mineral resources of our country have yet to be fully tapped.

(c) **Beneficial**

1. The recent showers are quite beneficial for the crops.

2. The government is spending crores of rupees on beneficial activities like health and education.

3. The cost of the Thein Dam must be borne by the beneficial States.

(d) **Indigenous**

1. The government is keen on encouraging indigenous systems of medicine.

2. The M.P.'s were indigenous because they thought that the minister had misled the House.

3. Remember that buffalo's

milk is indigenous for the little baby.

(e) **Illustrate**

1. He was an illustrate member of the Rajput clan.

2. How ridiculous it is that even some members of the School Board are illustrate.

3. To illustrate his point he cited a number of cases.

(f) **Embark**

1. The Security Council has placed an embark on the supply of oil to South Africa.

2. We have now embarked on a new experiment to reduce our consumption of petrol.

3. When the passengers embarked on the shore they were received warmly by the islanders.

(g) **Initiate**

1. It was an Independent member who initiated the discussion on Prohibition.

2. The applicant must sign in full and not in initiates.

3. The work was assigned to an initiate who did not understand a word of Business Administration.

(h) **Erupt**

1. Because of the accident communications were erupted for full eight hours.

2. The speech of the Minister was frequently erupted by the members of the opposition.

3. The Volcano erupted and the neighbouring villages were utterly devastated.

(i) Divert

1. The accident was diverted by the presence of mind displayed by the driver.

2. In the evening the tourists diverted themselves with dancing and Jazz-music.

3. During the 19th century a number of Hindus were diverted by Christian missionaries, of course with their consent.

(j) Affect

1. The thief affected his escape from the gaol.

2. The doctors say that his lungs have been badly affected.

3. The speech was brilliant but it had no affect on the audience.

Q. III. Complete the words in the following sentences keeping in view their context and the near-antonym given in the brackets.

1. The discussion became ~~ae~~—ous and tempers ran high. (good-humoured)

2. Finding me keen on higher education my uncle was ~~ge~~—ous enough to meet all my expenses. (stingy)

3. Knowing full well that ~~ei~~garettes are ~~de~~—ous to health, smoking is on the increase. (beneficial)

4. It is ~~ba~~—ous to starve the calf by denying it its mother's milk. (humane)

5. The circus has to spend a lot on maintaining ~~ca~~—ous animals like lions and tigers. (herbivorous)

6. Introducing the speaker by the wrong name was an ~~eg~~—ous mistake. (minor)

7. On weddings and other ~~fe~~—ous occasions wine flows freely among these people. (sad)

8. The fireman wore masks that were ~~im~~—ous to the acrid smoke. (sensitive)

9. Prospecting for gold! ~~ha~~—ous way to earn on living. (safe)

10. The doctor's decision to operate immediately proved to be ~~ju~~—ous. (thoughtless)

Q. IV. Select the proper alternative to make a proverb.

1. Work won't kill

(a) if it is not too heavy

(b) if it brings money

(c) but worry will

2. Nothing is cheap

(a) except death

(b) if you don't want it

(c) when the pocket is empty

3. London streets

(a) are paved with gold

(b) are always crowded

(c) ~~loo~~k deserted before sunrise

4. Wash your dirty linen

(a) with soap

(b) thoroughly

(c) at home

5. Fools build houses

(a) even though they do not need them

(b) at remote places

(c) and wise men live in them.

Q. V. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end.

There are two considerations which deserve at least a word in any discussion of the Indian theatre. The first is the rapid development of the cinema as a competitor for popular favour. At first, in *the early flush of cinematic triumph* people prophesied the extinction of the theatre. It is now clear that though here and there, temporarily, the theatre may be affected, the cinema can never hope to replace the stage and *elbow it out of existence*. Experience in the West has shown that the stage will always be required as a feeder to the studio. For the technique is

herent and great stage actors have always to their disgust, discovered that film-acting is at best only a second best to them; it cannot mean to them what the stage means. Something is lacking—the human touch. In the theatre heart responds to heart and mind acts on mind in a way unknown to the cinema.

Thus the theatre *is in no danger of extinction*. On the other hand, the rivalry of the screen ought to and will put the theatre to a new test and *give it a new stimulus* that may well lead to still higher planes of artistic achievement.

Finally, a word about what a national language spoken, written and thought, might do for the theatre in India. With the new awakening in social life, the need for a common tongue is being increasingly felt. Much work is being done *to hammer out a common linguistic medium*. The day when it is accepted will be a great day for the Indian theatre, as it will be for all art in the country. But the theatre, because its life-blood is the spoken word will gain most. With a common tongue, with a live national consciousness the theatre will come into its own as a definite instrument of national unity, reflecting the national mind, interpreting the national heart and dreaming national dreams for the future.

(a) What are the two considerations mentioned in the opening sentence. Tick off what you think to be correct.

(1) The cinema is gaining popularity.

(2) The cinema will replace the theatre one day.

(3) The theatre will gain by the challenge from the cinema.

(4) A common language for the country will promote the theatre.

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Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

1. The wave-length of a radio wave whose frequency is 500,000 vibrations per second is:
 - (a) too short to be observed
 - (b) too long to be observed
 - (c) 0.600 kilometer
 - (d) 0.600 metre
2. The wave-length of radio waves:
 - (a) is greater than the wave-length of gamma rays
 - (b) is less than the wave-length of visible light
 - (c) is greater than the wave-length of X-rays
 - (d) is less than the wave-length of ultra violet light
3. A green leaf illuminated by blue light looks:
 - (a) yellow
 - (b) green
 - (c) blue
 - (d) black
4. The distance from Delhi to Ambala about 120 miles, is in kilometers close to:
 - (a) 75
 - (b) 192
 - (c) 750
 - (d) 7.5
5. Of the following, the machine that is driven forward by reaction thrust of its exhaust gases is:
 - (a) an airplane
 - (b) a turbo-jet
 - (c) an automobile
 - (d) a locomotive
6. Which of the following is not a part of every atom:
 - (a) proton
 - (b) neutron
 - (c) nucleus
 - (d) electron
7. The most common element by weight in the earth's crust is:
 - (a) Aluminium
 - (b) Iron
 - (c) Oxygen
 - (d) Silicon
8. How many electrons does it take to equal the mass of one proton?
 - (a) 16
 - (b) 32
 - (c) 920
 - (d) 1840
9. Particles that are weakly bonded to one another are probably:
 - (a) ions
 - (b) atoms
 - (c) molecules
 - (d) free electrons
10. Which of the following has no net electrical charge?
 - (a) an atom
 - (b) an alpha particle
 - (c) a proton
 - (d) a nucleus
11. A human response that is automatic from birth is called a:
 - (a) voluntary act
 - (b) habit
 - (c) reflex
 - (d) tropism
12. The greatest amount of parental care is given by birds and:
 - (a) fish
 - (b) protozoa
 - (c) insects
 - (d) mammals
13. Weakened bones result from over secretion of the:
 - (a) thyroid
 - (b) adrenals
 - (c) pancreas
 - (d) parathyroid
14. In the emergency situation during an operation in which the rate of heartbeat decreases, a doctor would most likely administer an injection of:
 - (a) insulin
 - (b) ACTH
 - (c) adrenalin
 - (d) thyroxin
15. A hyperthyroid condition is usually associated with:
 - (a) mental retardation
 - (b) high blood sugar
 - (c) increased metabolism
 - (d) low blood pressure
16. Viruses consist of a protein coating and a core of:
 - (a) ATP or DNA
 - (b) DDT or RNA
 - (c) RNA or DNA
 - (d) ATP or DDT
17. Which plant may have beneficial bacteria growing on its roots?
 - (a) clover
 - (b) potato
 - (c) corn
 - (d) wheat
18. It is possible to prevent an epidemic of typhus by the use of:
 - (a) gamma globulin
 - (b) DDT
 - (c) atabrine
 - (d) vitamins
19. DDT spray is effective in the eradication of malaria because it:
 - (a) kills the tsetse fly
 - (b) kills mosquitoes
 - (c) kills the malarial protozoan in the blood
 - (d) sterilises the home in which it is used
20. Cancers that are naturally transmitted from one animal to another are believed to be caused by:

- (a) bacteria
- (b) viruses
- (c) rickettsias
- (d) protozoan

21. If J stands for Jupiter, N for Neptune, P for Pluto, S for Saturn, and U for Uranus, the order of the outer-planets from the earth is:

- (a) J, S, N, U, P
- (b) J, N, S, U, P
- (c) J, S, U, N, P
- (d) J, U, S, N, P

22. The four nearest planets to the earth in order of distance are:

- (a) Mars, Venus, Jupiter, Mercury
- (b) Mars, Venus, Mercury, Jupiter
- (c) Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Mercury
- (d) Venus, Mars, Mercury, Jupiter

23. Which is *not* included in our Solar system?

- (a) polaris
- (b) the moon
- (c) meteors
- (d) planetoids

24. The average time interval between one high tide and the next high tide is approximately:

- (a) 24 hours
- (b) 12 hours
- (c) 3 hours
- (d) 6 hours

25. When the moon is on the side of the earth directly opposite the sun, the moon is in the phase known as:

- (a) first quarter
- (b) new
- (c) full
- (d) last quarter

**Increases (I), Decreases (D),
Remains the same (RS)**

26. After injection of dead typhoid bacilli, the concentration of typhoid antibodies in the blood—.

27. In India, as the incidence of contagious diseases decreases, the average life span of humans—.

28. When a patient receives a transfusion of plasma, the number of red blood cells in that patient —.

29. If a brass ring is heated from 100°C to 200°C, its diameter will —.

30. A train moves with *constant* velocity away from a man standing on the platform of a station. The *pitch* of the bell's ringing as heard by the man —.

Explain

31. Why do transistors requires less power than ordinary electron tubes?

32. What is the dot of light that you see as the picture dies away when you turn off your TV set?

33. Why do you get a spark when you shuffle across a nylon rug and then touch a metal doorknob?

34. How does a TV camera work?

35. Explain why neutral objects are attracted by either positively or negatively charged objects.

36. Matching Test

Direction: For each disease in column B, write the number preceding the name of the test from Column A which would be used in testing for that disease.

Column 'A'

(Medical Tests)

1. Biopsy
2. Patch test
3. PBI-test
4. Schick test
5. Urine test
6. Wassermann test
7. Widal test

Column 'B'

(Diseases)

- (a) Cancer
- (b) Diabetes
- (c) Malfunction of the Thyroid
- (d) Syphilis
- (e) Tuberculosis

Fill in the blanks

37. (a) The "master gland" of the body is the—.

(b) Excitement causes a sudden increase in the secretion of the—glands.

(c) An enlargement of the thyroid gland is known as—.

(d) A gland found below the stomach that secretes both enzymes and a hormone is the—.

(e) Overactivity of the thyroid gland is being treated by the use of radioactive—.

Test Your Knowledge

38. The splitting of an atom of uranium, as in an atomic bomb or a nuclear reactor, is called 1. Two new 2 are formed with a loss of 3, which is changed into 4. The combination of two light elements to form a heavier one is called 5. It occurs in the 6 bomb. Explosions of nuclear weapons above ground is accompanied by radioactive dust, called 7, which is released into the atmosphere.

There are subatomic particles other than the electron, proton, and neutron. All the known particles can be grouped into four superfamilies: 8, 9, 10, and 11. In addition, the forces between particles can be classified as 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. The 10 force has an effect only on baryons and mesons; thus these are often called the 11.

ANSWERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (c) |
| 3. (d) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (b) | 6. (b) |
| 7. (c) | 8. (d) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (c) | 12. (d) |
| 13. (d) | 14. (c) |
| 15. (c) | 16. (c) |
| 17. (a) | 18. (b) |
| 19. (b) | 20. (b) |
| 21. (c) | 22. (b) |
| 23. (a) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (c) | 26. I |
| 27. I | 28. RS |
| 29. I | 30. RS |

(Contd. on page 672)

General Knowledge Test

Q. 1. Write a short note on oil and diesel crisis. What steps are being taken by the Indian Government to overcome this crisis?

Ans. As a result of the decision of the Oil Producing and Exporting Countries (OPEC) to raise oil prices by a total of 14.5 per cent in 1979 (in two phases), and also as a result of the disruption of India's oil supplies owing to the stoppage of the flow from Iran (the world's No. 2 oil producer), India is now facing a tough problem on the oil front. The additional burden in foreign exchange as a result of the OPEC price enhancement is estimated at Rs. 180 crores with the import of 16.5 million tonnes of crude required in 1979. This would raise the total crude import bill to Rs. 1,600 crores. If the 4 million tonnes of petroleum produces, also proposed to be imported, are included, the total import bill will be a staggering Rs. 2,050 crores.

To make matters worse for this country, several Gulf countries have decided to raise the price of their oil higher than the official price fixed by OPEC. Moreover, India has not yet been able to book the total quantity of oil required for the year. So far, commitments are only for about 11 million tonnes against the requirement of

16.5 million tonnes. Efforts are being made to bridge the gap of about 5 million tonnes.

Again, to meet the situation, steps are being taken to extract more oil from Bombay High, reversing the earlier policy of conserving supplies. Happily, some new oil sources have been discovered in India's North-East region. Highly promising structures have been found in the areas north of the Brahmaputra in the valley extending from Assam into Nagaland and near what is known as the "Naga Thrust". Several other areas are also being tapped in Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal and the Godavari basin, in a bid to augment domestic sources.

Q. 2. Write a short note on the basic tenets of Gandhian Philosophy.]

Ans. Gandhian Philosophy: The basic tenets of Gandhian philosophy are: Truth, non-violence (Ahimsa), purification of politics, rekindling of the feelings of love, affection and sincerity in human beings, rehabilitation of the basic freedom of man, dignity of human labour and the uplift of the down-trodden sections of society, particularly the Harijans. The Mahatma did not believe in any "isms". There was no rigidity in the application of the basic

principles of non-violence. He freely admitted that Ahimsa might be applied differently in different situations and circumstances. The Mahatma always condemned extremism. He was a "Karma Yogi", a practical man of action who fought and struggled in his own unique way, without expecting or waiting for results. Even-mindedness or a balanced state of mind, he said, could be obtained only by avoiding all passions and by renouncing desires. According to his beliefs, politics bereft of religion are a death-trap because they kill the soul. Religion, in fact, was the very breath of Gandhiji's being. There was a religious consciousness and a downright religious motive at the back of every act that he did.

Q. 3. Explain the main features of a Socialist Society.

Ans. A Socialist Society, in broad terms, generally denotes a system of public ownership and management of the means of production and distribution of goods as contrasted to capitalism which emphasizes private ownership and management.

A socialist society, however, defies any attempt at precise definition, its forms depending on historical and social conditions in a particular country. It can be statist or libertarian, Marxist or "liberal", revolu-

tionary or gradualist, cosmopolitan or nationalistic.

The two distinct type of socialist societies are: one which believes in evolutionary socialism (social democracy) which attempts to capture the existing state by democratic methods and use it, and the other which believes in revolutionary socialism, which seeks to destroy the existing state and build a new one through proletarian dictatorship (Marxism-Leninism Communism).

Socialism essentially is a movement for the promotion of the well-being and happiness of individual men and women, akin to utilitarianism in that it seeks the "greatest happiness of the greatest number" and not of any metaphysical entity such as the state, which should exist only to promote the ends of individuals.

A socialist society, in the end, means a classless society based on the socialisation of property in the essential sectors of production—than about the means of achieving it, although both ends and means are inextricably interwoven.

Socialism implies that society should be organised on the basis of justice; there should be no exploitation of man by man, the resources of the community should be used for the benefit of all and everyone should at least be assured of the minimum conditions of civilised existence.

Q. 4. Give concise answers to the following:

(a) What is Deficit Financing?

(b) What is the importance of cottage industries in India?

Ans. (a) Deficit Financing: When money is created without productive resources to fully back the supply, the process is described as deficit financing. While resorting to deficit financing, a Finance Minister leaves

the gap between the State revenues and the expenditure unbridged, or covers it by drawing upon the Government's reserves or by resorting to public loans. The Government of India has been resorting to this process for the past many years, though the quantum of deficit financing has been decreasing from year to year. Deficit financing leads to inflation, increase in prices and to other distortions in the country's economy.

(b) Importance of Cottage Industries: While the key to a country's industrial progress and economic development lies in establishing large industries for supplying basic necessities and establishing the requisite infrastructure, cottage and small-scale industries have also an important role to play in national economic development. Mahatma Gandhi realised the importance of cottage industries, especially Khadi, handlooms, ghani oil, and pleaded for giving the maximum encouragement to individuals intending to set up such small enterprises in rural areas which cry for development. Accordingly, the Government of India has been providing all possible facilities for small-scale industries—preferential treatment in sanctioning loans, raw material quotas, marketing facilities and preferences in placing orders for government offices, etc. Cottage industries require very small capital and are easy to start, especially because raw materials in many cases can be had in the villages or adjacent regions and now power availability is also much easier. In every five-year plan substantial sums are provided for small-scale industries, especially in rural areas. Cottage industries have indeed an important role; apart from the employment potential, they also serve as feeders to large plants.

Q. 5. Who appoints the Chief Justice of India and how

long can he remain in office?

Ans. The Chief Justice of India is appointed by the President, like every other judge of the Supreme Court under Article 124 of the Constitution. He holds office until he attains the age of 65 years. In the case of the appointment of a judge other than the Chief Justice, the Chief Justice of India is to be always consulted by the President. When the office of Chief Justice of India is vacant, or when the Chief Justice, by reason of absence or otherwise, is unable to perform the duties of his office, these duties are performed by one of the other judges of the Supreme Court, as the President may appoint for the purpose, according to Article 126 of the Constitution which provides for the appointment of acting Chief Justice.

Q. 6. Write a brief note on each of the following:

(a) Indus Valley Civilization;

(b) The Chola Dynasty;

(c) Secularism during the reign of Akbar;

(d) East India Company;

(e) The Indian National Congress.

Ans. (a) Indus Valley Civilization: The Indus Valley Civilization was one of the earliest civilizations about which we know something. It derives its name from the river Indus, because the numerous sites at which the remains of this civilization have been found are all situated in the basin of the river Indus and its tributaries. It was in 1921 that traces of this ancient civilization were first discovered at Harappa in the Montgomery district of Punjab (now in Pakistan). Next year, an equally important site was unearthed at Mohenjo Daro in the Larkana district of Sind (also in Pakistan now).

From archaeological excavations at Indus Valley sites it

appears the people belonging to that era cultivated barley, wheat, peas, melons, sesame etc. The large number of spindles found in the remains go to show that those people knew how to spin both cotton and woollen threads. From the statues and carvings, we can make out that women put on skirts and men supported beards and whiskers. Both men and women wore ornaments like finger-rings, necklaces, armlets etc.

(b) **Chola Dynasty:** The Chola dynasty was an ancient Tamil kingdom on the lower coast of India along the banks of the river Cauvery. They were the leading power of the south. Cholas reached zenith of their power under *Rajaraja I*, the Great (985-1014). He conquered the territories of the Cheras, Pandyas, Vengi, Kalinga and even Ceylon and the Laccadive and Maldive Islands. The great Siva temple of Tanjore, the masterpiece of Chola architecture, was built by him. Their power ultimately declined in the 13th century when their territory was divided between the *Hoyasalas* of Mysore and the *Pandyas* of Madura.

(c) **Secularism during the reign of Akbar:** Akbar was the real founder of the Mughal Empire and the first Muslim ruler who divorced religion from politics. He removed all individual distinctions based on race and religion and broadbased his government on the willing support of the people. He not only brought about political integration of the greater part of the country by his policies based on secularism but also converted the alien kingdom into something like a national empire. He was able to see through the Indian situation correctly and wisely attempted to win over the leading Rajputs by friendly persuasion wherever possible. He promoted national outlook both in politics and culture.

(d) **East India Company:** The (English) East India Company was incorporated in 1600 to trade with India by a Charter given to it by Queen Elizabeth I. In 1615, the Company built its first factory in India at Surat with the permission of Jehangir secured through Sir Thomas Roe, the ambassador to James I.

In the beginning, the East India Company had to face the Dutch's opposition, the rivalry of the French traders and the declining Mughal rulers of the land. Dupleix, the ablest Governor-General of the French possessions in India, wanted to drive the English out of India and to set up a strong French empire here. But the arrival of Clive on the scene dashed all his hopes. Robert Clive crushed the aspirations of the French by defeating them in different encounters.

The crowning achievement of Clive was in the battle of Plassey in 1757 in which he defeated Siraj-ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Bengal and laid the foundation of the Company's power in Bengal. The conquest was complete in the Battle of Buxar in 1764. Bengal was the first province in India to be conquered by the English.

(e) **Indian National Congress:** The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885. The organisation owed its origin to the inspiration provided by Surendranath Banerjee and A.O. Hume, a retired British Civil servant, who suggested forming an organisation "for the mental, moral, social and political regeneration of the people of India."

The first session of the Indian National Congress was held in Bombay in December 1885 under the Presidentship of Mr Woomesh Chandra Banerjee.

To begin with, the Congress was a moderate organisation committed to the use of con-

stitutional means only for securing certain rights for Indians. From 1885 to 1905, the organisation remained in the hands of moderates who were not prepared to lay down their lives for the motherland. They thought that their duty was only to highlight the weaknesses of the government and administration. During this period the party leadership passed modest demands through prayers, appeals, petitions, deputations etc. It avoided all extra-constitutional or agitational approach. Although the character of Congress was moderate in the initial stages, it did a great deal of spadework in awakening political consciousness and national unity.

Q. 7. Who were the parties involved in the following battles ?

(i) The first battle of Panipat; (ii) The battle of Talikota; (iii) The battle of Buxar.

Ans. (i) Babar and Ibrahim Lodhi; (ii) United Alliance between Bijapur, Bidar, Ahmednagar and Golkonda under Husain Nizam Shah and Ram Raja of Vijayanagar; (iii) The British forces under Sir Hector Munro and the Muslim army under three leaders: Mir Kasim, Shuja-ud-Daulah and Shah Alam II.

Q. 8. Name the five classical dance forms of India and the regions of their origin.

Ans. *Bharatnatyam*, a dance style of classical dancing in South India; *Manipuri*, a dance style of Manipur; *Kathak*, a dance style which has its origin in northern India (Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh); *Kathakali* is a classical dance style of Kerala; *Odissi*, a dance style of Orissa.

Q. 9. In what fields did the following distinguish themselves ?

(i) Panini; (ii) Charak; (iii) Hafiz; (iv) Junko Tabei; (v) Dr Radhakrishnan.

Ans. (i) Sanskrit Grammar; (ii) medicine; (iii) mysticism; (iv) mountaineering; (v) philosophy.

Q. 10. Write one sentence about each of the following:

(i) Che Guevara; (ii) Ferdinand Magellan; (iii) Jules Verne; (iv) Pablo Picasso; (v) Yuri Gagarin.

Ans. (i) **Che Guevara:** He was a guerilla revolutionary who tried to organise revolts in several Latin American countries. He was shot dead by the Bolivian army in October 1967.

(ii) **Ferdinand Magellan:** (1480-1521) He is often referred to as the first circumnavigator of the earth and is more correctly described as initiator and leader of the Magellan Elcano expedition, since he died before the completion of the first voyage round the world.

(iii) **Jules Verne:** (1828-1905) was a French writer and a founder of modern science fiction.

(iv) **Pablo Picasso:** was a world-famous painter and sculptor known to be the greatest and most influential independent artists of the 20th century and the creator of Cubism.

(v) **Yuri Gagarin:** was a Russian cosmonaut. He was the first person in the world to enter space.

Q. 11. Name the authors of the following books:

(i) A Passage to India; (ii) Kamsutra; (iii) Tales from Shakespeare; (iv) Panchtantra; (v) Lady Chatterly's Lover; (vi) Hamlet; (vii) The Discovery of India; (viii) A Passage to England; (ix) The Grammar of Politics; (x) India Wins Freedom.

Ans. (i) E.M. Forster; (ii) Vatsyayana; (iii) Charles Lamb; (iv) Vishnu Sharma; (v) D.H. Lawrence; (vi) William Shakespeare; (vii) Jawaharlal Nehru; (viii) Nirz C. Chowdhury; (ix)

Harold Joseph Laski; (x) Abul Kalam Azad.

Q. 12. Describe the contribution of the following personalities (not exceed 30 words in each case):

(a) Darwin; (b) Einstein; (c) Newton; (d) James Watt; (e) Louis Pasteur.

Ans. (a) **Darwin:** (1809-82) was the British scientist who discovered the principle of natural selection. His famous work is *The Origin of Species*.

(b) **Einstein:** (1879-1955) was German-Swiss world-famous scientist known for his *theory of relativity*.

(c) **Newton:** (1642-1727) was the British natural philosopher. He discovered binomial theorem; the differential and integral calculus. He expounded the universal law of gravitation. He is author of *Principia Mathematica*.

(d) **James Watt:** (1736-1819) was Scottish Engineer. He invented steam engine.

(e) **Louis Pasteur:** (1822-95) He was a French chemist who discovered the causes of fermentation in alcohol and milk and founded the Pasteur Institute in 1888. He made researches in silkworm disease, anthrax, and hydrophobia.

Q. 13. Name 5 major ports of India in the Bay of Bengal.

Ans. Visakhapatnam, Calcutta, Madras, Paradeep, Tuticorin.

Q. 14. Name five of the major irrigation and multipurpose projects involving more than one State.

Ans. Beas Project; Damodar Valley Project; Tungabhadra Project; Bansagar Project; Gandak Project.

Q. 15. What are ocean deposits? What is their importance?

Ans. Ocean deposits: In-

numerable fish and other animals living in the oceans are a great source of food to mankind. Minerals like salt, iodine etc., are also derived from the ocean waters and sea-weeds.

Q. 16. Name the zones prone to earthquake round the world.

Ans. **Earthquakes:** Earthquakes are frequent in chief volcanic belts of the world viz., (a) *circum-Pacific seismic belt* round the Pacific Ocean which includes the western coast of Americas, the eastern coast of Asia, the islands of South-East Pacific and New Zealand, (b) *The mid-world belt (or the Alpine belt)* which runs through the middle of Asia from east to west and goes beyond the Mediterranean Sea, (c) *Atlantic belt* which runs from north to south through the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

Q. 17. Name four of the most important agricultural commodities exported from India and mention the main areas of their production.

Ans. **Tea:** (Assam, West Bengal, Kerala and Tamil Nadu).

Coffee: (Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala).

Spices: (*pepper* in Kerala and West Bengal; *chillies* in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra; *cardamom* in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu).

Cashew Kernels: (Kerala).

Q. 18. Which type of soil is best suited for growing cotton in India?

Ans. *Black soil* (soil containing salt).

Q. 19. Which states are richest in iron and manganese deposits in India?

Ans. *Iron:* Bihar and Orissa.

Manganese: Madhya Pradesh.

(Contd. on page 670)

1. Industrialization of India—What Next ?

Facts are stubborn things. They are apt to alarm us more than the most dangerous principles. Now the facts are that 60 per cent of our people live below the poverty line and 20 per cent of the remaining are struggling for a "make-believe" happy life. And all this, no less than thirty two years after our Independence. The question, naturally on everybody's lips is "What then must we do?"

Our economy all these years has been urban-oriented. Our Union Government, after the long history of repression and frustration under the British rule developed early a weakness for State planning. This kind of planning has an irresistible fascination for the town-bred intellectual. It enabled privilege to be equated with patriotism and progress with the satisfaction of urban values and the sophisticated way of life in which they had grown up and which in consequence had grown upon them. In brief, it meant political and social domination of country by town, of village by city, and power and much-coveted perquisites for the elite who constituted our ruling class. So planning went on, planning of a particular orientation. The rich went on getting richer while

the poor became poorer still. The edifice became top-heavy. Not that this phenomenon of Industrial progress and consequential disparities of wealth is unusual. England in the 19th century witnessed a rapid flowering of its industries, particularly the textile industry. There was a trek to the cities and the villages were depleted and denuded. But England was greatly helped by the net-work of her colonies where she exported her goods, much to the detriment of those colonies, as in the case of India. We have also markets of a sort, but a resurgent nationalism is abroad and any day the house that we have built so assiduously may crumble down.

Another country that has transformed itself industrially, almost overnight, is Russia. But in this case before the process of industrialization began, the country transformed itself politically into a Dictatorship of the Proletariat. There were to be no magnates or bag-barons. The fruits of country's labour may not be equally shared but at least a square meal was guaranteed to every one.

These two countries cannot serve as a model for us. One is capitalistic and colonial and the

other communistic. One thrives on exploitation and the other rests on violence. The Gandhian way is the way for us. It may not be socialism in the conventional sense but it combines the dignity of the individual with the common good of all, *Sarvodaya*. It rests on the bed-rock of our religion, the divinity of the human soul.

To the question "what then must we do"? Gandhiji's answer might well be "We must retrace our steps and restart from the point where we took the wrong turning or else the farther we travel the worse shall we fare". As regards production, we shall have to turn to our villages and revive them in every way. As regards distribution, his words are classic. "The prince and the peasant will not be equalled by cutting off the prince's head. Not by confiscation or by expropriation or by cramping of superior talent can the wealth and happiness of all be increased but by those who have more of the world's goods and superior talents using their advantage not for self but for the good of society as a whole."

This is religion, philosophy, economics and politics all rolled into one.

2. Position of Women in India

The history of India is broadly divided into three periods; Ancient, Medieval and Modern. The position of woman in India can be collaterally described as one of Independence, Subservience and Re-

habilitation. On the one hand she has been glorified as in the verse "God took the beauty of the flowers, the song of the birds, the colours of the rainbow, the kiss of the breeze, the laughter of waves, the gentleness of the

lamb and wove them into a feminine being". And on the other we have "The drum, the dog, the beast, and the man, all these deserve beating." Fickleness! thy name is Man.

In the ancient times women of India occupied an exalted position in society and excelled in various spheres. Fine arts like music, dancing and painting were specially encouraged in the case of girls. On all festive occasions they dominated the show, something that has survived the ravages of time. Even in learning and philosophy they stood shoulder to shoulder with men. The names of Maitreyi, Katyayani, Gargi and Lilavati may be mentioned in this connection.

Then came the era of decline. During the Muslim rule they were deprived of all their rights of equality with men. Purdah was introduced and they were treated as slaves and drudges. Evil customs like Sati and dowry crept in. Like a slave she had no right to property, a right that was denied to her till the other day.

It is only in the 20th century that the Indian woman began coming into her own. Under the enlightened and dynamic leadership of Gandhiji they reasserted their independence and proved their worth. The spread of education among them where Swami Dayanand took the initiative produced in them the consciousness of their rights. No wonder they began to organise themselves politically and socially. They distinguished themselves in different walks of life. It was a due recognition of their position that our Constitution has given them equal rights with men, something for which even English women had to struggle very hard.

Constitutional and legal rights have been conferred but social thinking has yet to go a long way to catch up with these rights. Divorce for example, is a perfectly sensible remedy in cases of incompatibility but it is looked upon as a stigma and a woman must be very brave who can be indifferent to unfavour-

able criticism in the social circle in which she lives. The biggest contributory factor in the equality of her status will be her economic independence. Much of the malaise that has undermined her position in the past resulted from the fact that man was the bread-winner and she ran the household. Our government has thrown open all avenues to women, and they have justified the confidence reposed in them. The Union Public Service Commission has stated that women recruited to the I.A.S. and other all-India services have proved successful. Latterly they have been bagging top positions in these competitions.

Though much is taken, much abides. All relics of man's inhumanity to woman must be obliterated. Purdah looks so barbarous. It dwarfs woman's personality. Dowry must go, lock, stock and barrel. It has made woman a commodity. Besides it has ruined the peace of many a home. Women's illiteracy should be removed at the earliest. It affects children. In short women should come back in all their glory and dignity into the lives of men who otherwise would remain brutes. Their happiness would be the true measure of the health of our society. It will also mean the true rehabilitation of Indian culture.

G. K. TEST (Contd. from page 668)

Q. 20. Name the capitals of the following countries:

(i) Laos; (ii) Spain; (iii) Nigeria; (iv) Uganda; (v) Mauritius.

Ans. (i) Vientiane; (ii) Madrid; (iii) Lagos; (iv) Kampala; (v) Louis.

Q. 21. Answer the following:

(a) Which is the foundation-day of the U.N.O.? Where are its Headquarters situated?

(b) What are the main purposes of the United Nations? State the names of its main organs.

(c) What is the total membership of the U.N. Security Council? Give the names of the countries having its permanent membership.

Ans. (a) The U.N.O. was founded in 1945 and the Charter of the United Nations was signed on the 26th June, 1945. The Headquarters of the U.N.O. is in New York.

(b) The U.N. is an organisation of Nations who have voluntarily joined together to work for world peace. The aim and purposes of the U.N. are:

1. to maintain peace and security in the world;
2. to develop friendly relations among nations;
3. to work together to remove poverty, disease and illiteracy in the world, and to encourage respect for each other's rights and freedom;
4. to be a centre for helping nations to achieve these goals.

The main organs of the U.N.O. are: (1) General Assembly; (2) Security Council; (3) Economic and Social Council; (4) Trusteeship Council; (5) International Court of Justice, and (6) The Secretariat.

(c) The total membership of the U.N. Security Council is 15. The permanent members are: U.S.A., U.S.S.R., U.K., France and China.

Correction

Q. No. 14, page 593 April 1979 issue

The correct answer is: "The Court of Magistrate of the First Class may pass a sentence of imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, or of fine not exceeding Rs. 5,000 or of both. [Section 29(2) of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.]



Gandhiji's Swaraj

The meaning of Swaraj, according to Gandhiji, is not only self-rule but also self-restraint. Swaraj, according to him, in the government of consent of the people as ascertained by the largest number of the adult population who contribute to the service of the State. Swaraj, he says, does not come by the acquisition of authority by a few but by the acquisition of the capacity by all to resist authority when it is abused. Real Swaraj can come only when masses are educated to a sense of their capacity to regulate and control authority as they think it to be in the best interest of the nation. It is our inner strength, our ability to fight against the heaviest odds upon which self-government depends.

Self-Government, says Gandhiji, means continuous effort to be independent of government control. If we are to look up to the government for the regulation of every detail of life, it is not Swaraj but a sorry state of affairs. In Swaraj of Gandhiji's dream, there will be a majority of selfless and patriotic people to whom good of the nation will be primary consideration. They will be honest and above board "whom the lust of office will not buy" and they will work for the nation as

a whole and not for their selfish personal gains.

If Swaraj means government of the many and if the large majority of people ruling the nation is selfish and immoral, then Swaraj is a far off thing—such a government can rather spell anarchy. The Swaraj, in its real sense, should civilize and purify us. It should give paramount place to moral values in all our affairs, private or public.

The Swaraj of Gandhiji's dream is also to be the poor man's freedom from want. Under it, the necessities of life should be provided to the rich and the poor alike. These should rather be guaranteed to the poor. There should be no palaces or palace-like houses. These are not necessary for happiness. People get lost in them and forget the real values of life.

Much water has flown down the Ganges since the days of Gandhi whose concept of self-government (Swaraj) was truly noble. The ministership during the earlier days of self-government was considered as an opportunity to render positive and constructive public service. In recent years, however, high office has been generally regarded as a golden chance to pile up a neat personal fortune at public cost. Judging from the frantic attempts of some Ministers to grab money and other assets, by hook or crook, it would appear as if public service is as far removed from their minds as the earth is from the sky. That so many Ministers in this country should have feathered their own nests, despite the pretentious reaffirmations of faith in Gandhian principles and the endless exhortations for purity in public life, is indeed a national tragedy. The canker of corruption has now penetrated so deep into Indian

society that it is widely regarded as irremediable.

It is not the Swaraj of Gandhiji's dream. The exploitation of his fair name is, however, amply in evidence.

Concept of Democracy

According to Gandhiji the first attribute of a democratic system of government is that the weakest should have the same opportunity as the strongest. This stems from his belief in equality of man. With his unswerving faith in non-violence, he also believed that true democracy could never be established through untruthful means, because the natural corollary to mass violence is mass suppression. He looked upon political power as not an end in itself but principally as a means of regulating national life. In a democracy, power resides in the people, but they can never hope to come into their own unless they learn to place duty before rights. In his opinion, real democracy could come into being only when people learnt to be selfless and imbibed the virtue of willing submission to social restraints for the well being of the whole of society.

The Mahatma disapproved unrestricted individualism which, in his opinion, was the law of the beast. In the democratic society of his conception, although there would be individual self-government, each citizen must learn to strike the mean between individual freedom and social restraints. "Self-government depends entirely upon our own internal strength, upon our ability to fight against the heaviest odds. Indeed, self-government which does not require their continuous striving to attain it, and to sustain it, is not worth the name."

Objective-Type Tests—English Language

(Contd. from page 662)

(b) The cinema can never drive out the theatre because:

(1) production of cinema is a much more costly business.

(2) great actors prefer the stage.

(3) There is a human touch in the theatre which is missing in the cinema.

(c) Which of the following is the most appropriate title to the passage.

(1) Cinema and the theatre.

(2) The stage as a feeder to the studio.

(3) Future of the theatre.

ANSWERS

(Question I)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (a) (1) | (b) (1) |
| (c) (2) | (d) (1) |
| (e) (2) | (f) (2) |
| (g) (1) | (h) (1) |
| (i) (1) | (j) (1) |

Corrections are:

(a) You had better see a

doctor

(b) If he had taken

(c) nor my neighbour was

(d) I have never shirked

(e) but he painted the house green

(f) he had seen a snake

(g) who you said won the prize

(h) so fast

(i) as he employed

(j) and this made him

(Question II)

(a) 2 and 3 (b) 3

(c) 1 (d) 1

(e) 3 (f) 2

(g) 1 (h) 3

(i) 2 (j) 2

Misleading words are:

(a) 1. intense

(b) 1. source 2. recourse

(c) 2. beneficent 3. beneficiary

(d) 2. indignant 3. indigestible

(e) 1. illustrious 2. illiterate

(f) 1. embargo 3. disembarked

(g) 2. initials 3. novitiate

(h) 1. disrupted 2. interrupt.

(i) 1. averted 3. converted

(j) 1. effected 3. effect

(Question III)

1. acrimonious

2. generous

3. deleterious

4. barbarous

5. carnivorous

6. egregious

7. felicitous

8. impervious

9. hazardous

10. judicious

(Question IV)

1. (c) 2. (b)

3. (a) 4. (c)

5. (c)

(Question V)

(a) (3) and (4)

(b) (3)

(c) (3)

Objective-Type Tests - Everyday Science

(Contd. from page 664)

31. They are smaller and do not require energy to heat a cathode.

32. Streams of electrons are emitted from the electron gun in the TV tube as long as the cathode is still not given after the set is turned off. However, after the set is turned off, the deflecting plates are no longer charged and do not deflect the electrons which now strike the middle of the picture screen, creating a dot.

33. Static electricity is generated by shuffling across a rug. The spark occurs when the static electricity discharges.

34. A TV camera screen is coated with thousands of particles of a photoelectric substance. Each particle receives a varying

charge depending upon the brightness of the light which strikes it. An electric current is produced which varies just like the pattern of light from the scene being televised.

35. When a positively charged object is brought close to a neutral object, the electrons within the neutral object are attracted to the charged object. When a negatively charged object is brought close to the surface of a neutral object, the electrons are repelled leaving the surface nearest the negatively charged object with a positive charge. This also results in an attraction.

36. (a)

(b)

(c)

(d) 6

(e) 2

37. (a) pituitary

(b) adrenal

(c) goitre

(d) pancreas

(e) iodine

38. 1. fission

2. atoms

3. mass

4. energy

5. fusion

6. hydrogen

7. fallout

8. baryons, mesons, leptons, photon

9. strong, electromagnetic, weak, and gravitational

10. strong

11. strongly interacting.



SPORTS

BADMINTON

All-England Championships: Indonesia dominated the All-England Badminton Championships, winning four of the five titles in London on March 24. Such a feat had earlier been achieved by Danish players in 1950.

RESULTS

Men's singles: Liem Swie King (*Indonesia*) beat Fleming Delfs (*Denmark*), 15-7, 15-8.

Women's singles: Lene Koppen (*Denmark*) beat Saori Kondo (*Japan*), 12-9, 11-11, 11-0.

BOXING

Heavyweight World Title: Larry Holmes retained the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight title when he outplayed challenger Osvaldo at Las Vegas on March 24. The referee stopped the fight in the seventh round.

CRICKET

Venkat to Lead India: Tamil Nadu's skipper, S. Venkataraghavan, was appointed, captain of the Indian cricket team for the World Cup Tournament and the tour of Britain at Hyderabad on April 9, according to an announcement by Mr M. Chinnaswamy, President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India. The 16-member team, announced on April 10, will be:

S. Venkataraghavan (*captain*), G.R. Vishwanath (*vice-captain*), Sunil Gavaskar, Anshuman Gaekwad, Dilip Vengsarkar, Brijesh Patel, Mohinder Amarnath, Kapil Dev, Karsan

Ghavri, Yajuvendra Singh, Surinder Khanna, Bharat Reddy, Bishan Singh Bedi, Yashpal Sharma, C. P. S. Chauhan and B.S. Chandrasekhar.

Standbys: S.M.H. Kirmani, Roger Binny, Shivlal Yadav and Surinder Amarnath.

Manager: Mr C.D. Gopinath. Second official: Mr G.G. Desai.

The first 14 of these players will participate in the World Cup Cricket Tournament, commencing on June 9. Later the remaining two players and the second official will join the team for the tour of Britain.

Ranji Trophy: Delhi became the national cricket champions for the first time when they carried away the coveted Ranji Trophy after a smashing 399-run victory over Karnataka, the holders, at Bangalore on March 29. The Ranji Trophy was instituted in 1934-35 and Bombay has a record of winning it 27 times.

While the Amarnath brothers, Surinder and Mohinder, played glorious three-figure innings each, young Surinder Khanna stole the show by scoring a century in each innings.

SCORES

Delhi: 516 (Surinder Amarnath 132, Surinder Khanna 111; A.V. Jayaprakash, three for 38) and 416 for eight declared (Mohinder Amarnath 178 not out; Surinder Khanna 128).

Karnataka: 411 (B.P. Patel 166 not out; Madan Lal, three for 50) and 122 (Madan Lal five for 30).

Captains: B.S. (Delhi), G.R. Vishwanath (Karnataka).

Deodhar Trophy: South Zone regained the limited 60 overs Deodhar Cricket Trophy when they defeated the holders, North Zone, by 29 runs with 3.5 overs to spare at New Delhi on March 21.

SCORES

South Zone: 247 in 59.4 overs.

North Zone: 218 in 56.1 overs.

Duleep Trophy: North Zone regained the Duleep Cricket Trophy after a lapse of five years when they defeated West Zone by virtue of their first innings lead at New Delhi on March 18.

SCORES

North Zone: 417 and 263.

West Zone: 277 and 102 for two.

Australia-Pakistan Test: Australia scored a superb 7-wicket win over Pakistan in the second Test match which concluded at Perth on March 29. The victory squared the series at 1-1.

SCORES

Pakistan: 277 and 285.

Australia: 327 and 236 for three.

Captains: Mushtaq Mohammad (*Pakistan*), Kim Hughes (*Australia*).

Wills Trophy: National champions Delhi covered themselves with further glory when they lifted the limited overs Wills Cricket Trophy at Bombay on April 8. The Thrill-packed final between Delhi and Bombay ended in a tie, each team scoring 253 runs. Delhi, having lost fewer wickets, were declared the winners. Mohinder Amarnath, who scored 82 runs and took three wickets for 46, was adjudged the "Man of the Match".

SCORES

Bombay: 253, all out in 56.1 overs.

Delhi: 253 for seven in 60 overs.

PLAYERS YIELD: All the 61 probables for the forthcoming World Cup Cricket Tournament and the tour of England yielded to the strong stand taken by the Board of Control for Cricket in India and signed the contract to play for India.

The contract, for the signing of which the last date was April 8, debars the players from participating in any tournament or match organised by any body not authorised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India. The Board took this stand as some of the top players wanted to sign contracts with Packer's World Series Cricket. Mr Chin-naswamy, President of the Board, said at Bangalore on April 8 that the Board would not allow Packer's cricket in India. It was against the rules of the Board which prohibit any private party staging matches in the country.

FOOTBALL

Rovers Cup: Dempo Sports Club, Goa, lifted the prestigious Rovers Football Cup when they defeated Orkay Mills, Bombay, by 2-1 in the final at Bombay on March 25.

One of the oldest competitions of its kind in the country, this tournament, which started at Bombay in 1891, was only preceded by the Durand Cup Football Tournament in 1888.

GOLF

Indian Open Championships: Thirtyfive-year-old Gaylord Burrows won the Indian Open Golf Championship at New Delhi on March 25. He finished a stroke ahead of Taiwan's Hsu Chi San with an aggregate

of 284. Born at Sangor (M.P.), Burrows moved to Bangalore with his parents before settling in the U.S.A.

Noni, a caddy from Calcutta, became the leading professional with an aggregate of 298.

Ashok Malik retained his position as the leading Indian amateur player with an aggregate of 298 and was followed by Vikramjit Singh (308) and Alan Singh (309).

HOCKEY

Bombay Gold Cup: In an all-Jullundur final, Punjab Police lifted the Bombay Gold Cup at Bombay on April 14 defeating the holders, E.M.E., 5-3, via a tie-breaker. Earlier, each team had scored one goal.

This hockey tournament was started in 1955 when the Bombay State National Sports Fund donated a gold cup worth Rs. 10,000.

Nehru Memorial Gold Cup: Indian Airlines of Delhi won the Nehru Memorial Gold Cup Hockey Tournament beating Bihar Regiment by three goals to one at Raipur on April 1.

OLYMPIC HOCKEY

India to Participate: "India will be participating in the 1980 Moscow Olympic Hockey Championship." Making this statement at Bombay on April 9, Mr Rene G. Frank, President of the International Hockey Federation (F.I.H.), said, in view of the high standard of the game in India, non-participation of this country in the Olympic competition would be unbelievable for the entire world. "I, as President of the F.I.H.", he said, "could hardly accept that the Asian Continent, which is the most important continent after Europe, should be represented by only one country (Pakistan)".

Only four teams, he would automatically qualify for the Olympic Hockey Tournament. These would be the Montreal Olympic Games champions (*New Zealand*), the runners-up (*Australia*), the winners of the American Zone and the host country. The other teams would be selected on the basis of their performances in international competitions.

Mr Frank, who was in Bombay to study the arrangements the city would be able to offer to stage the fifth World Cup Tournament in 1981, said he was much impressed with all the work done so far and with the facilities available in Bombay.

The F.I.H. chief disclosed that only six teams, including the USSR, would be entered in the women's hockey, being introduced for the first time at Moscow.

(Mr Frank's statement clarified India's position vis-a-vis participation in the Olympic Hockey Tournament in the 1980 games at Moscow.)

TENNIS

World Championship Tournament: Tall, blonde and stockily-built Bjorn Borg of Sweden outplayed young John McEnroe of the U.S.A. in straight sets, 6-4, 6-2, in the final of the World Championship Tennis (W.C.T.) Tournament at Rotterdam on April 9.

SWIMMING

New World Record: Svetlana Varganova, 14-year-old Soviet swimmer, created a new world record of 2 minutes 31.09 seconds in 200 metres breast-stroke at a junior international meet at Minsk on March 31. The previous mark of 2 minutes 31.42 seconds was set by another Soviet Girl, Lina Kachushite in August last.

(Contd. on page 679)

Current General Knowledge

Abbreviations, Awards
Books
Commissions
Defence
Persons, Places, Projects
Space
Miscellany

ABBREVIATIONS

CAZARI: Central Arid Zone Research Institute.

PAFNA: Pan-African News Agency.

U.N.L.F.: Uganda National Liberation Front.

AWARDS

Luther King Award: Mrs Amrit Wilson, freelance journalist, has been awarded the Martin Luther King Award for 1978 for her book "Finding a Voice—Asian Women in Britain".

Mrs Wilson is the first Indian to get this award. Married to a British scientist, she stays in London.

Udyan Pandit Awards: Vasant Vishramji Khyrde, of Maharashtra has been awarded the first prize of Rs. 5,000/-, a bronze medal and a certificate of Udyan Pandit.

Udai Ram Patel of Rajasthan has been awarded the second prize of Rs. 2,000/- and a certificate of merit.

Ghalib Award: Prof Zoe Ansari of Bombay University has been unanimously selected for the Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Ghalib Award for his rich contribution to literary criticism. (See also under "Persons".)

BOOKS

A Dangerous Place: is a book written by Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a former U.S. Ambassador to India. The book, published in November 1978,

by its disclosures about Mrs Indira Gandhi, has spread sensation in India's political circles.

Mr Moynihan has been quoted as saying in his book that "the U.S. Government had given money twice to the then ruling Congress and once to Mrs Gandhi".

On both occasions, says Mr Moynihan, the Congress Party had itself asked for financial help. On another occasion funds were passed on directly to Mrs Gandhi. While Mrs Gandhi was the Prime Minister in 1967, and the reported American aid to the Congress party is said to have been extended to keep the Communists out of power in Kerala and West Bengal (an unsuccessful effort as things turned out), the alleged direct donation to Mrs Gandhi was apparently made in 1959 when she was President of the ruling party. It was during her term as the party President that the Communist Government of Kerala was overthrown with the help of an orchestrated agitation.

Finding a Voice—Asian Women in Britain: Mrs Amrit Wilson. (See also under "Awards".)

COMMISSIONS

Macbride Commission: The International Commission for the study of Communication Problems—also known as the Macbride Commission after the Chairman, Mr Sean Macbride—held its fifth session in New Delhi from March 26 to March 30.

The Commission was set up by UNESCO in 1976 to undertake a study of the role of communications in present-day society. The Commission has had four meetings so far—two at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, one in Stockholm (Sweden) and another at Dubrovnik in Yugoslavia.

The Commission has 16 members, including Mr B.G. Verghese from India. It has submitted its interim report to UNESCO.

DEFENCE

MIG 23: The Government of India is evaluating the MIG-23 fighter/strike version as the new generation to be introduced in the MIG family military aircraft now in use with the Indian Air Force.

The MIG-23 is an advanced version (variable geometry) of the MIG-21F, of which the I.A.F. has 10 interceptor squadrons. It has a supersonic speed of Mach 2.3 against the MIG 21's Mach 2.1.

Taking a lesson from the trouble India has had over the failure to plan in advance the phasing out of the Canberras and Hunters, the Government is looking ahead for an advanced generation of fighters after the MIG 21s. India has already selected the Anglo-French *Jaguar* in the role of the deep penetration-and-strike aircraft.

India has not sought for the I.A.F. the MIG-25, the most advanced version of the fighter aircraft the Soviet air force uses.

The degree of advanced technology introduced in MIG-25s is not considered necessary for India's needs.

PERSONS

Ansari, Dr Zoe: Dr Ansari of Bombay University was in the news having won the Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Ghalib Award for his rich contribution to literary criticism.

Dr Ansari, who has hitherto delivered 80 lectures on the art and thought of Mirza Ghalib in different lands and languages, has to his credit 12 published works of literary criticism, monographs ranging from Amir Khushro to Iqbal and George Bernard Shaw to F. Dostoyevsky. At present he is engaged in writing the history of Russian poetry in two volumes for his Indian readers.

Lule, Dr Yusufu: 67-year-old Dr Yusufu Lule, who has been in exile for 10 years was sworn in as President of Uganda on April 13.

Dr Lule is a quiet and courteous professor who himself insists that he has no political ambitions, and would prefer retirement with his wife and children.

Frank, Rene G.: He is President of the International Hockey Federation.

Hoveyda, Amir Abbas: who was executed by an Islamic firing squad on April 7 in Teheran, was Prime Minister of Iran for 13 years during the Shah's regime.

According to the Islamic Court, the 57-year-old Hoveyda was found guilty of all charges of being corrupt element on earth, responsible for spreading corruption and treason to Iran.

Mahlangu, Solomon: the 24-year-old black student freedom fighter of South Africa, who was hanged in Pretoria on

April 4 despite international appeals for reprieve, was a member of the military wing of the African National Congress (ANC).

"My blood will nourish the tree which will bear the fruits of freedom", said the South African Nationalist leader in his last interview with his mother before his execution.

Moynihan, Daniel Patrick: A former U.S. Ambassador to India who later became head of the U.S. Permanent delegation to the United Nations and is currently a member of the Senate, shot into news as his book "A Dangerous Place" with Suzanne Weaver as his collaborator, spread sensation in India's political circles. The author in his book published in November 1978, claims that the U.S. Government came to the assistance of the Congress Party with funds during the elections in 1967 and on another occasion funds were passed on directly to Mrs Indira Gandhi.

PLACES

EL Arish: is an area in Sinai from where Israeli forces initially began their pull back immediately after signing of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty. Under the treaty the area was to be returned to Egypt within two months time.

Kampala: is the capital of Uganda. It was in the news when the Tanzanian-led Ugandan rebel forces captured it on April 11 and proclaimed in a radio broadcast: "The racist fascist Idi Amin is no longer in power."

Pin Valley: It is in Lahaul Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh. The valley remained cut off due to heavy snowfall in the second week of March—so much so that it had not been possible to establish contact with the people of the Pin

village for a number of days.

PROJECTS

Garland Canal Project: For long described as impracticable and even dangerous, the Garland Canal Scheme prepared by Mr Dinshaw Dastur, a Bombay technocrat, is at last being given the attention long denied to it. The Congress regime repeatedly rejected it, and successive Union Irrigation and Power Ministers also disfavoured it on technical grounds. The scheme, however, impressed Mr Morarji Desai, and recently he gave the indication of an earnest feasibility study with the help of FAO and World Bank.

In essence, the plan envisages a 1,500-mile long, and 400-ft. wide canal garlanding the southern slopes of the Himalayan region, and central and southern garland canals encircling peninsular India. The canals would be 11,000 km long, and there would be 300 integrated lakes, all together proving a national water grid.

The positive side of the project—especially when the problem of funds is out of the way—is indeed attractive. Floods and drought are expected to be eliminated almost completely; about 90 per cent of the cultivable land would receive irrigation; useful waterways would be available and, what is even more important, vast employment opportunities would be created. If the scheme gets off the ground, the Garland Canal network may well prove a panacea for many of the country's economic problems.

SPACE

Satellite to help weatherman: India's first geosynchronous satellite with an important meteorological payload will be launched in 1981. This satellite would be used for improving the early warning system against

natural disasters, such as tropical cyclones.

Coupled with MONEX, the development of geosynchronous satellite will provide meteorologists with the much-needed data to improve forecasting capability.

Cosmonauts grow onion on board Salyut-6: Soviet cosmonauts have succeeded in growing onion sprouts on board the Salyut-6 space station.

According to a report from Moscow the cosmonauts Lyakhov and Rynin also conducted, with the help of tools delivered by the unmanned cargo-ship, Progress-5, repairs and recovery operations in Salyut.

The cosmonauts have been conducting experiments in medicine and biology and in photographing earth.

Soyuz-33: A Soviet and a Bulgarian cosmonaut were launched into space on April 10 in Soyuz-33 spacecraft. Veteran Soviet cosmonaut and flight commander Nikolai Rukavishnikov and Bulgarian cosmonaut Maj Georgi Ivanov were to link their Soyuz-33 spacecraft with a Soviet crew already aboard the orbiting space station Salyut-6, but the mission failed and the cosmonauts were asked to return to earth.

The two cosmonauts were to conduct the most extensive research of the Communist countries inter-cosmos programme.

MISCELLANY

World record: A British passenger train on April 10 travelled 140 km at an average speed of 179.7 km p.h.—a world record for a scheduled rail service from start to stop.

Earth putting on weight: Soviet scientists have obtained data establishing the fact that the earth's weight has increased by 0.001 per cent in the last

500 million years.

As confirmed by the detailed research conducted by the Soviet geologists, physicists and scientists from other disciplines, 40,000 tons of cosmic dust fall on our planet every year. While a part of this fall-out returns to outer space, the rest settles on the earth, thereby continually adding to its weight.

According to scientists, the planet's weight is one of the factors behind the dynamics of geological processes, the alternation of day and night, and the course of time and climate.

Big river once flowed through Rajasthan: A mighty Himalayan river once flowed through what is now Rajasthan desert, according to scientists of the Central Arid Zone Research Institute of Jodhpur.

The river changed its course five times from southerly to a westerly direction, became dry and left the desert some 3,800 years ago.

The entire course of the lost river, known as the Saraswati, has been reconstructed with old maps and recent satellite data. According to scientists, the Luni river now flowing in the desert, was only a tributary to the lost *Saraswati*.

Soviets Photograph lost continent: Soviet scientists have recently taken photographs which could prove the existence of the legendary lost continent of Atlantis between Portugal and its Atlantic islands of Madeira, according to a top Soviet oceanographer.

Dr Andrei Aksenov said the eight photographs which would shortly be released to the world press, showed an underwater mountain and what appeared to be vestiges of walls and huge staircases.

All were eroded and covered with marine vegetation, he told reporters aboard the 5500-

ton Soviet research vessel "Vityaz" during a four-day visit to Lisbon.

Dr Aksenov, Deputy Director of the Soviet Academy's Institute of Oceanography, said further research needed to be carried out in the area, 900 km off the Portuguese mainland.

Investigations into the lost continent could help explain similarities between the basic culture of people on the fringes of Europe, Africa and the U.S.A.

Meteorite reveals new mystery: American space scientists have come up with new findings about *Shergotty*, a meteorite which fell in India more than 100 years ago.

The five-kilogram meteorite has long aroused curiosity in scientific circles because of its resemblance in certain features with our planet.

According to a U.S. science journal, *Shergotty* is mineralogically so close to certain earthly rocks diabbases that astronomers have wondered over the possibility of a terrestrial type parent body.

Officials at the India Meteorological Department have confirmed that the meteorite fell in India in 1865, but could not say what happened to it afterwards.

"Our records indicate the *Shergotty* meteorite weighed about five kg and was rich in calcium. Some traces of iron were also perhaps noticed", an official said.

The U.S. journal says that current research at America's National Aeronautics and Space Administration has thrown up information that makes the rock all the more interesting.

According to studies at NASA's Johnston Space Centre in Houston, *Shergotty* shows "by far the youngest rubidium-strontium (RB-SR) age of any meteorite" 165 million years.

Argumentative Questions

(Contd. from page 653)

ignorant people are becoming conscious of their rights.

2. Wherever there are children working in village homes or on agricultural farms, they get reasonable returns in the form of food and payment in kind, say a part of the crop they help in harvesting. Times have changed, and now even labourers in villages demand higher and higher daily wages—and they get it because of the shortage of workers.

3. As a result of propaganda by Government, social workers and non-official agen-

cies and also as a result of education, such bonded labourers now refuse to continue their free services to their masters. They know that their masters cannot file suits against them in law courts for fear of being exposed.

4. More and more employment opportunities are now being provided by the Janata Government through its policies to fight employment within 10 years and the encouragement being given to small and cottage industries. With this process the evil of bonded labour will decrease.

the values of the individual shapes that make up those areas.

Confirmation of this is given by 140, which is the product of 4, 5 & 7. Therefore, X is the product of the circle, square, triangle and rectangle; Y is the product of the triangle, rectangle and square; Z is the product of the triangle and square.)

13. 69. (There are two alternate series, starting with the first two numbers, and each formed by trebling the preceding number in its own series and subtracting 3. Thus $24 \times 3 = 72$; $72 - 3 = 69$.)

Model Paragraphs

(Contd. from page 654)

mortals be! If there is really a Lord above, he cannot withhold his wrath for long. And then the ears of corn will burn with the tares because the cars allowed the tares to have their way.

Food is the best weapon.

When a woman bemoaned the inattentiveness of her husband an old lady advised her to reach his heart through his stomach. Sumptuous dishes have achieved what nothing else could. What is known as Dinner Diplomacy is the vogue today. The Summit Meets are held over culinary master-pieces. Chickens and Champagne do

the spade-work and agreements are signed involving thousands of planes and millions of dollars. Such miracles are performed by food. If the Shah of Iran had understood the power of food, he should have built up huge granaries rather than pile up armaments. What he looked upon as his sheet-anchor was dashed to smithereens by the hunger of his subjects. The Greek myth of Cerberus is very much to the point. The hell-gates are guarded by this dog and none can enter, howsoever power he might be. Ulysses, the Greek hero, distracted the dog's attention by throwing to him a piece of meat. Where nothing could succeed food did the trick.

Intelligence Test (Contd. from page 656)

12. $X=840$; $Y=168$; $Z=24$. (Values of the shapes as indicated are: square=4, circle=5, and triangle=6. The value of the rectangle is not indicated, but it is obviously 7. This is as-

certained from the relationship between 4 (square) and 28, or 5 (circle) and 35. From this it can also be seen that the values of the overlapping areas are obtained by multiplying

14. (c)

15. (a) Volume (b) Triangle

16. (a) Migratory (b) Inelligible (c) Omnipresent (d) Obsolete

17. 7.9.18.12

18. (a) Gun (b) Sheep (c) Decade (d) Mother

19. (c). (All the others are synonyms.)

20. 1. (There are three main figures, with a circle, a cross or a plus sign inside each row.)

21. (d).

22. J. (The letters advance alphabetically, first skipping one, then two letters, and so forth. After F, skip three letters to reach J.)

23. Billiards and chess.

24. R.K. Narayan.

25. (a) Mouse (b) Cat

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of Selected Words used in this issue)

allotropy: the property (especially in chemical elements, as carbon) of existing in more than one form.

alumnus: a former pupil or student.

assiduous: constant or unwearied in application; persistent application of diligence.

avarice: eager desire for wealth; covetousness.

bemoan: to lament, bewail; to pity; to grieve.

collateral: side by side; running parallel or together.

covet: to desire or wish for eagerly; to wish for wrongfully.

cramp: restraint; hard to make out; to hamper; to confine.

crone: an old woman usually in contempt.

crumb: a small particle of anything; the soft part of bread.

culinary: pertaining to the kitchen or to cookery; used in the kitchen.

cynic: a morose man; a snarler; disinclined to recognise goodness; characterised by an ostentatious contempt for riches, arts, science and amusements.

cynosure: anything that strongly attracts attention or admiration.

denude: to make nude or naked; to lay bare.

deplete: to empty; to reduce, exhaust.

despotism: absolute power; tyranny.

detriment: diminution; damage; loss.

drudge: to do dull, laborious or very mean work; one who does heavy monotonous work; a slave; a menial servant.

dupe: one who is cheated; to deceive; to trick.

edifice: a large building or house.

elite: a chosen or select part; the pick or flower of anything.

expropriate: to dispossess.

feud: a war waged by private individuals, families, or clans against one another on their own account; a bloody strife; a persistent state of private enmity.

feudalism: the feudal system or its principles.

fickle: inconstant; changeable.

fulcrum: the prop or fixed point on which a lever moves; a support.

genie: genius.

gimmick: a secret device for performing a trick; a device to catch attention, peculiar to the person adopting it.

gull: a dupe; an easily duped person; a hoax.

harangue: a loud speech addressed to a multitude; a pompous or wordy address.

hypocrisy: a feigning to be better than one is, or to be what one is not; concealment of true character or belief (not necessarily conscious).

inextricable: not able to be extricated or disentangled.

lure: any enticement; bait.

make-believe: to pretend, feign.

malaise: uneasiness; a feeling of discomfort or of sickness.

nonentity: the state of not being; a thing not existing; a person or a thing of no importance.

obliterate: to blot out, so as not to be readily or clearly readable; to efface.

ominous: pertaining to, or containing an omen; portending evil; inauspicious.

polarise: to develop new qualities or meanings in.

pastor: one who has care of a flock or of a congregation; a shepherd.

pelf: riches (in a bad sense); money.

perquisite: property acquired otherwise than by inheritance; a casual profit; anything left over that a servant or other has by custom a right to keep; a tip expected upon some occasions; emoluments; something regarded as falling to one by right.

procrastination: act or habit of putting off.

proletariat: the wage-earning class especially those without capital.

purveyor: one whose business is to provide victuals or meals; an officer who formerly exacted provisions for the use of the king's household.

quaff: to drink or drain in large draughts; to drink largely.

relic: that which is left after loss or decay of the rest; any personal memorial of a saint, held in reverence as an incentive to faith and piety; a souvenir; a memorial of antiquity or object of historical interest.

reprieve: to delay the execution of; to give a respite to; to rescue, redeem.

revulsion: diversion to another part, especially by counter-irritation; withdrawal; disgust; a sudden change or reversal esp. of feeling.

rusticate: to banish for a time from town or college.

sham: a hoax; a counterfeit; pretended; false.

sheet-anchor: an anchor for an emergency; chief support; last refuge.

simmer: to boil gently; to be near boiling and breaking out.

smithereens: small fragments.

sordid: dirty; squalid; mean.

temperance: moderation, esp. in the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions—in a narrower sense, moderation in the use of alcoholic liquors and even entire abstinence from them.

theocracy: that constitute of a state in which God, or a god, is regarded as the sole sovereign, and the laws of the realm as divine commands rather than human ordinances—the state thus governed.

virtuoso: one skilled or interested in works of art, antiquities, curiosities and the like.

SPORTS

(Contd. from page 674)

I.O.C. Membership

China admitted: The International Olympic Committee took China into membership but maintained recognition to Taiwan at its meeting at Montevideo (*Uru Guan*) on April 7.

Making the announcement, the President, Lord Killanin, said Peking which applied for Olympic recognition, but insisted that the I.O.C. disown Taiwan, had changed its stand.

Appointments Etc.

Heads of State

Prof Yusufu Lule: Appointed President of Uganda.

Prime Ministers

Shah Azizur Rahman: Appointed Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

Hafizulla Amin: Appointed Prime Minister of Afghanistan.

Maati Bouabid: Appointed Prime Minister of Morocco.

Ilie Verdet: Appointed Prime Minister of Rumania.

Diplomats

Philip Gichuru Gitonga: Appointed High Commissioner of Kenya in India.

N.P. Jain: Additional Secretary in the Foreign Office appointed Ambassador of India to Nepal.

Dr Jaskaran Singh Teja: Appointed Ambassador of India to Afghanistan.

Miscellany

Aslam Watauyar: Interior Minister of Afghanistan appointed Chief of Staff of Afghanistan's Army.

Dr O.P. Gautam: Appointed Director-General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Distinguished Visitors

Sir S. Ramgoolam: Prime Minister of Mauritius.

W. Lejczak: Mining Minister of Poland.

Gen Kriangsak Chomanan: Prime Minister of Thailand.

J.R. Harrison: Speaker of the House of Representative of New Zealand and President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).

Dr A.J. Barre: Foreign Minister of Somalia.

Resigned

Dr. Karim Sanjabi: Foreign Minister of Iran.

Abdel Fattah Ismail: President of South Yemen.

Manea Manesou: Prime Minister of Rumania.

Dr Atma Ram: Chairman of the National Committee on Science and Technology.

Died

Leonide Massine: One of the great names of 20th century ballet.

Tuanku Yahia Petra Ibni al-Marthum Sultan Ibrahim: King of Malaysia.

Executed

Z.A. Bhutto: Former Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Amir Abbas Hoveyda: Former Prime Minister of Iran.

Solomon Mahlangu: Freedom fighter of South Africa.

and spare parts of coal mining machinery.

26—Egypt and Israel sign peace treaty.

—Wave of anger in Arab world against Egypt-Israel peace treaty.

—Pakistan to buy 32 French-made Mirage jet fighters for its air force.

—OPEC oil to be 9 per cent costlier.

28—Israel begins its pull back from Sinai in preparation for its return to Egypt.

29—Queen Elizabeth II calls a general election in U.K. to be held on May 3 following the ouster of Prime Minister James Callaghan's minority Labour Government in a historic non-confidence vote on March 28.

—Rebel Ugandan troops close in on Kampala. President Idi Amin flees.

30—Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi leaves for Bahama islands. (*The Shah had been living in exile in Morocco since January 22, 1979.*)

31—1 andslide vote for Islamic republic in Iran.

—Arabs agree on boycott of Egypt.

APRIL

1—Iran is proclaimed an Islamic Republic.

4—Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, hanged like a common criminal.

5—Pro-Bhutto men turn violent in Pindi, Lahore and Karachi.

—Egypt's Cabinet unanimously ratifies the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in the final form.

6—24-year old Solomon Mahlangu, the Black guerilla freedom fighter of South Africa, hanged in Pretoria despite international appeals for reprieve.

7—Billa and Ranga sentenced to death for the "diabolic and cruel" murder of Geeta and Sanjay Chopra.

—Amir Abbas Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran for 13 years under the Shah's regime, executed in Teheran.

11—Tanzanian-led forces seize Kampala (capital of Uganda); end of President Idi Amin's eight years of harsh military rule.

13—More execution in Iran.

15—200 killed in worst earthquake in Yugoslavia.

16—India and Bangladesh agree to stop illegal migration.

17—Rhodesia goes to poll for a black-dominated Parliament which will end 88 years of white supremacy in this rebel British colony.

EVENTS

MARCH

17—India and Mauritius agree to further step up trade and cultural and scientific exchanges between them.

19—China agrees to hold negotiations with Vietnam.

22—The Israeli Knesset (Parliament) overwhelmingly approves the treaty to end 30 years of war between Israel and Egypt.

24—Pakistan's seven-man Supreme Court unanimously maintains death sentence on Mr Z.A. Bhutto.

—India and Poland sign an agreement by which Poland will help India to promote small-scale sector in fields related to the manufacture of textile machinery component handlooms, electronic items, agro-industries

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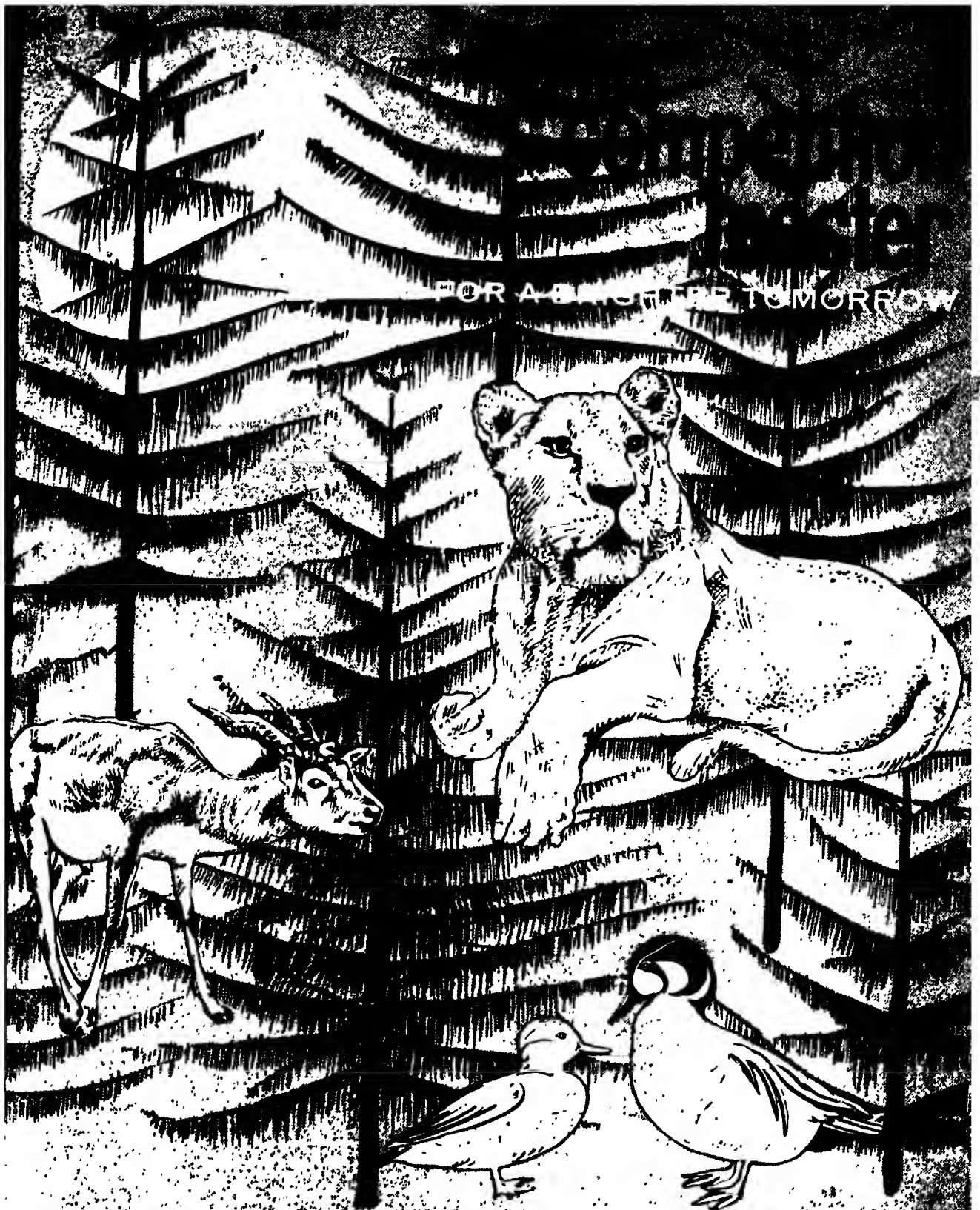
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Letter from the Editor

BREVITY

Dear Reader,

Genuine good taste consists in saying much in few words, in choosing among our thoughts, in having order and arrangement in what we say or write. Isn't it like that? In the words of Ruskin, "Say all you have to say in the fewest possible words, or your reader will be sure to skip them; and in the plainest possible words, or he will certainly mis-understand them."

Keeping such brevity in view, we are at work right from now arranging the matter for you in the coming August Annual Number. We have to put twelve months in a capsule. How far we succeed in doing so will be for you to judge !

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Editor

A National Disgrace

DURING the British days it was said that all inter-communal discord was the deliberate creation of the foreigner who practised the theory of "divide and rule". The country tasted the bitter and poisonous fruit of such disharmony. The communal poison indeed brought disaster to the nation, and it was thought that sanity would dawn on the sectarian elements with the dawn of Independence. The alliance of religion and politics in the shape of communalism was, in particular, regarded as highly dangerous. Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru repeatedly warned that the country would go to pieces if communal riots continued and the spirit of nationalism was at such discount. And yet the events of recent years, especially of 1978 and 1979, indicate a revival of the evil influences which, it was thought, had become a thing of the past.

The events in Jamshedpur, where the toll of communal frenzy and utter sectarian lunacy was perhaps the heaviest for many years, and the periodic clashes in Aligarh all point to a return to an age of barbarism and unpardonable intolerance. There have been other communal incidents too at sensitive centres, with the result that the blot on the fair name of the country, which was supposed to have been washed away through a spirit of goodwill and amity, supplemented by education and all-round progress, is reappearing, almost with a vengeance. This is a national shame to which all rational people must give immediate thought.

Must we become savages again? Communal riots occur only where the feelings of certain communities are already tense and just a flare or a match is enough to set the tinder ablaze. So the causes are deep; these are no longer economic because there are unrestricted openings for every community and no one can accuse any group of usurpation or monopoly of any profession or vocation. Government jobs are also available to all the minorities and leading members of the minority community now head certain wings of the defence forces and also hold key posts in the administration.

The unprovoked, pre-planned and organised attack on a large number of Aligarh University students on May 9 near Delhi was a disgraceful display of intolerance on the part of an aggressive section of the majority community. It is futile to blame the administration for communal discord and the inflamed passions. Nor does the political complexion of the party in power make any difference to the situation. This is apparent from the figures of communal riots in the country over the past nine years: in 1971 there were 321 such clashes, in 1972 and 1973 about 240 each; in 1974 the number rose to 248. During 1976 and 1977 there was a respite, the number of incidents being 169 and 188 respectively, but in 1978 the number rose to 230, and by the time the year 1979 comes to a close the number may rise to a record figure, unless the highly disconcerting trend is speedily checked.

The loss of life and limb, the damage to public and private property and the general setback to progress are so substantial that there can be no adequate compensation. Most of the time the loss is irreparable. The utter agony of the families whose bread-winners and children have been heartlessly done to death can well be imagined. Educated people must indeed wonder what things are coming to and whether sanity would ever dawn on this hapless country.

The disastrous consequences of such inanities reduce the damage done to the country by the endless political infighting among the Janata Party, the two Congresses and others to insignificance. The mistrust between certain leading communities seems to be growing and the spirit of accommodation and tolerance seems to be fading out. The rioting may be a precursor of even more serious confrontations. The prospects are indeed frightening and the situation is assuming serious proportions. It demands the earnest attention of all sane elements in various parts of the country. Let it not be said by the future generations that those living in the closing decades of the 20th century lacked foresight, common sense and all sense of proportion.

Current National Affairs

44th Constitution Amendment

On April 30, 1979, the right to property ceased to be a Fundamental Right and became an ordinary legal right when the Constitution (45th Amendment) Bill, renumbered as the 44th Amendment, received the assent of the President of India. The Bill amends Article 19 of the Constitution and deletes Article 31.

The transmutation of the right to property into a legal right, however, does not affect the right of the minority communities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. Similarly, the right of persons holding land within the ceiling for personal cultivation remains unaffected so far as the right to receive compensation at market value is concerned.

The legal right to property expressly provides that no person shall be deprived of his or her property except "in accordance with law".

The Amendment Bill has been ratified by a majority of the States. The measure, which has now become an Act and a part of the Constitution, also provides for safeguards against misuse of executive powers and indiscriminate imposition of Emergency, like the one imposed by Mrs Indira Gandhi from June 19, 1975—March, 1977. The Act also provides that the Fundamental Rights, including those of life and liberty, cannot be demolished merely by a majority vote.

The Act removes the major distortions in the Constitution introduced during the Emergency. To ensure that Emergency powers are properly exercised and not abused, the amendment provides that a proclamation of Emergency can be issued only when the security of India or any part of its territory is threatened by war or internal aggression or by armed rebellion. Internal disturbance not amounting to armed rebellion will not be a ground for issuing such a proclamation.

Moreover, a proclamation of Emergency can be issued only on the basis of written advice tendered to the President by the Cabinet so as to ensure that it is issued only after careful consideration. It has also been provided that such a proclamation would have to be approved by both Houses of Parliament by the same majority which is necessary to amend the Constitution. Such approval would have to be given within one month.

A further safeguard has been provided by laying down that the proclamation would be enforced only for six months and can be continued only by further resolutions passed by the same majority. A proclamation would cease to be in operation if a resolution disapproving of the Emergency declaration is passed by the Lok Sabha.

From the common people's point of view the important provision in the amendment is that by which the citizens' right to life and liberty

44th Constitution Amendment
Courts for Economic Offences
Inflation and Price Situation
Shortage of Petroleum Products
More Fund for the States
Grover Commission's Verdict
Separate Ministry for Harijans
Dimensions of Foreign Policy
India's Stand on Nuclear Bomb
India to seek More Foreign Aid
India-Yugoslavia Accord
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Who "Saved" Pakistan from India

has been placed on a secure footing; the power to suspend the right to move the courts for the enforcement of a fundamental right cannot be exercised in respect of the right to life and liberty. This safeguard will act as a further check against the misuse of the Emergency provision.

Another important provision of the Constitutional amendment is Article 361-A by which the right of the information media, especially the press, has been guaranteed to report freely and without censorship the proceedings in Parliament and the State Legislatures. This protection will not, however, be available in respect of the proceedings of secret sittings.

The provision regarding the breakdown of the Constitutional machinery in the States has been amended to provide that a proclamation issued under Article 356 would be enforced only for six months in the first instance.

The term of Parliament and State Legislatures has been restored to the pre-42nd amendment Act position, that is to say, the term will again be five years. Some of the distortions introduced in the Constitution by the 38th, 39th and 42nd amendments which were enacted during the Emergency, have also been removed.

Articles 132, 133 and 134 have been amended and a new article 134-A has been inserted to provide that a High Court should consider the question of granting a certificate for appeal to the Supreme Court immediately after the delivery of the judgement on the basis of an oral application by a party, or if the High Court deems it fit to do so on its own motion. The bar in respect of the jurisdiction of High Courts in revenue matters has been removed.

Courts for Economic Offences

For the past four years or so efforts have been made to set up special courts to try economic offences, especially those relating to smuggling and the violation of Essential Commodities Act, but without much success. On May 9 the Union Home Minister stated in the Lok Sabha that the Centre had asked the States to earmark some of the existing courts, or to set up additional courts, for exclusively handling economic offences covered by Central Acts. The basic aim in adopting this course is to expedite the trial of offences instead of enacting special legislation for setting up special courts for this purpose, which would take time.

The Law Commission had suggested the establishment of special courts for economic offences under Article 247 of the Constitution, but the Central Government felt that special legislation for this purpose was not necessary. The expenditure on these courts will be reimbursed by the Centre to the State Governments. These courts could be manned by officers of the rank of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate in metropolitan areas, and Chief Judicial Magistrates in other areas.

Maharashtra, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have been asked to set up three such courts; Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and U.P. will earmark one court each to try economic offences; and Delhi would have two such courts. In all about 20 such courts are expected to start functioning soon.

The Centre does not visualise any hesitation on the part of the States to set up such courts in consultation with the High Courts, especially because the expenditure would be reimbursable. At present there

are 36,951 cases concerning economic offences pending in various courts. About 24,000 of these cases concern violations of the Essential Commodities Act.

The expectation is that since the Judges trying economic offences will concentrate on this work, they would soon become "experts" in this line and the trial and disposal would be speedy and effective. Mr Patel stated that there were certain reasons why the Government had decided not to accept the Law Commission's suggestion for amending the law, but he did not disclose those reasons.

Inflation and Price situation

The price stability brought about during the first two years of the Janata Government's rule is now being fast eroded, thanks to the price spurt in recent weeks caused initially by the shortage of certain commodities, the heavy and very comprehensive taxation imposed by the Finance Minister, Mr Charan Singh, in his Central Budget and the usual profiteering tactics indulged in by the trading community.

Another basic reason is the sharp increase in money supply unaccompanied by a corresponding increase in real incomes in the form of higher production of goods and services. The disequilibrium thus caused tends to upset economic stability.

The wholesale price (1970-71 as the base) stood at 183.6 on February 24, 1979, compared to 181 on February 25, 1978. The 1.4 per cent increase in prices over 12 months resulted in a much greater hardship at the retail level. On April 14, 1979, the price index touched the 194 mark. This means that since the presentation of the Budget, prices have risen by 5.6 per cent, and the disconcerting trend continues. Since the index is heavily weighted in favour of

foodgrains (the prices of which have remained stable owing to the bumper crops) the rise in prices of several other commodities has caused real hardship to the consumer.

What is worse, this rise is by no means an isolated phenomenon. All evidents point to a further and continuing increase in commodity prices in the coming months. The rate of growth of money supply touched 20·3 per cent in 1976-77. This rise in money supply continues and, in consequence, the inflationary trends appear to have set in with a vengeance. Although the Government has now announced that a package of anti-inflationary measures will soon be announced, there seems to be little doubt that this package will be too little and too late.

Another notable factor which tends to disturb price stability and to restore the inflationary trends so noticeable in the pre-Janata period is the growing resort to deficit financing. In 1976-77 the deficit financing by the Central and the State Governments together amounted to Rs. 134 crore. The 1977-78 Budget put the deficit financing at Rs. 214 crore, but the revised estimates showed a sharp increase to Rs. 1,134 crore. The Budget estimates for 1978-79 put the overall deficit financing at Rs. 1,348 crore. The position has not stabilised even at that level.

According to the latest reports, the deficit financing during the current year is likely to mount to Rs. 1,800 crore. Meanwhile the rate of growth of money supply was 16 per cent in 1978-79. To quote the actual figures, the money supply increased from Rs. 13,325 crore on March 31, 1976, to Rs. 21,360 crore on March 10, 1979. This shows a rise of 60 per cent over a period of five years. During the same period the Gross National Product (GNP) during

the period increased only by about 14 per cent.

The soaring oil import bill, now higher by about Rs. 500 crore annually, means a further strain on the national exchequer. The Sixth Plan made a provision of Rs. 2,200 crore for deficit financing in the entire five-year period. The estimates have all gone wrong. This is shown by the fact that the total deficit financing in the first two years of the Sixth Plan is estimated at Rs. 2,800 crore, much more than the provision made for the entire Plan period.

Shortage of Petroleum Products

Following the disruption of supplies of petroleum from Iran in the wake of widespread disturbances there since November, 1978, India has been facing a shortage of petroleum products. Although the Government has been making efforts to arrange adequate supplies from other sources to fill the gap, the probability is that the shortage will continue for quite some time. The Union Government is finding it difficult to ensure adequate supplies in view of the tight supply situation, the reluctance of oil producers to make firm commitments, the rising prices in the international market and the general policy of O.P.E.C. to regulate production so as to ensure the maximum profits. It is, therefore, unlikely that the Government will be able to maintain the supply at a high level to meet the anticipated increase in demand in the coming years.

The Union Minister for Petroleum, Mr Bahuguna, announced on May 4 that the States would not get more than 5 per cent more petroleum products than their usual quota—that is, 5 per cent over and above the actual sales last year. The States have been advised to regulate the consumption, ensure equitable distribution, especially of petrol,

kerosene and diesel, through formal or informal rationing. Certain States have also agreed to reduce the consumption of petroleum products generally by 15 per cent.

The consumption of petroleum products in the country during 1978-79 was 28·1 million tonnes, which represented an unusually high growth rate of 10·2 per cent over 1977-78. This high growth rate is explained by the shortage of alternative fuels, like coal, soft coke and electricity. About 16·5 million tonnes of crude were required to be imported during 1979, and arrangements have so far been made to import 14·3 million tonnes. Besides, the U.S.S.R. has promised to supply an additional 0·6 million tonnes during the year in exchange for rice, following a recent agreement reached in Delhi.

In recent weeks the prospects of importing oil from Iran have improved. A team of officers has gone to Teheran for negotiations and the efforts are to get the usual quota of 5·3 million tonnes a year, or at least 2·8 million tonnes as a short-term measure. The current oil production in Iran is about 4 million barrels a day, against 6·5 million tonnes before the turmoil started there.

More Funds for the States

In pursuance of the Seventh Finance Commission's recommendations for devolution of funds to the States, Mr Satish Agarwal, Minister of State for Finance, introduced in the Lok Sabha early in May three Bills to achieve the purpose. Transfer of more funds from the Centre to the States has been a notable development since the Janata Party took office in March, 1977. The Lok Sabha passed the three Bills on May 9.

The Minister for Finance disclosed that the transfer of

funds to States for the period 1979 to 1984 would be substantially higher than Rs. 23,063 crore estimated by the Seventh Finance Commission. The actual benefit to the States will, therefore, be substantial. During 1974-79 the estimated transfer of funds to the States was only Rs. 11,578 crore under the formula laid down by the Sixth Finance Commission.

The Seventh Finance Commission has thus set a new record in respect of the total amount of resources to be transferred from the Centre to the States. These transfers, the Minister explained, will provide adequate financial resources for the States to maintain and develop the necessary administrative infrastructure that may be responsive to the increasing demands that the developing economy normally generates.

The Finance Commission had raised the States' share of Income-tax from 80 per cent to 85 per cent and more than doubled their share in basic excise duty. It had recommended grants totalling Rs. 1,173 crore (during 1979-80 to 1983-84) to eight States which, despite substantial transfers through tax devolution, were expected to have a sizeable gap on the revenue account.

The Commission had further recommended allocation of about Rs. 437 crore to 17 States for upgrading standards in certain sectors of the administration.

The Commission had also suggested a debt relief of Rs. 2,156 crore to the States during the period 1979-84 and had made far-reaching recommendations in regard to financing of relief expenditure of the States.

According to the Commission's estimates, he said, all these would add up to Rs. 23,063 crore.

Under the Additional Duties on Excise (goods of special im-

portance) Amendment Bill, 1979, the States will get an estimated Rs. 1,867 crore during the years (1979-80 to 1983-84).

Under the Union Duties Excise (Distribution) Bill, 1979, the States will get an estimated Rs. 11,347 crore from excise duty on generation of electricity.

The Estate Duty (Distribution) Amendment Bill, 1979, provides for a formula for distribution of net proceeds from Estate Duty collected by the Centre.

The Government of India has also asked the Reserve Bank of India to take steps for opening 5,000 more banking offices in the rural areas in the next three years so that no Rural Development Block may remain without a bank. This measure is designed to mobilise more institutional finance for rural development.

Certain understandings were reached about ensuring the smooth sharing of the proceeds from the Corporation Tax and the Surcharge on Income-tax between the Centre and the States, at a conference of Chief Ministers held in the third week of May, 1979.

Grover Commission's Verdict

Enquiry commissions and committees have ceased to attract much attention after the Shah Commission's elaborate probe and the inadequate aftermath, but the findings of the A.N. Grover Commission, which probed the charges of misuse and abuse of political power by Mr Devraj Urs, the Karnataka Chief Minister, are of much interest in the context of recent developments.

The final report of the Commission was presented to Parliament on May 9. It holds Mr Urs guilty at least on five of the 60 charges referred to it for enquiry. The Commission has

also held three of Mr Urs' former colleagues guilty of certain charges.

The five charges against Mr Urs upheld by Justice A.N. Grover are:

—Favouritism and misuse of governmental power in allowing a private party to sell in the open market 1,000 tonnes of paddy allotted to the State by Tamil Nadu on a Government-to-Government basis.

—Undue favour to a commercial company in the sale of 2,500 tonnes of bajra without calling for a tender and allowing the firm to sell it in Maharashtra during the time of draught in Karnataka.

—Misuse of power and authority in superseding the orders of the Minister in charge in respect of release of Government funds to an Engineering Construction Company with the intention of benefiting the firm.

—Favouritism and abuse of authority in granting land earmarked for a public purpose to a flour mill.

—Undue favour to an Electronics firm in the matter of purchase of electronic equipment.

Of the three former colleagues of Mr Urs, Mr D.K. Naiker, former Minister for Municipal Affairs, has been found guilty of favouritism and misuse of power in connection with the grant of corporation land to an individual. While giving his finding on this particular charge, Mr Justice Grover points out that Mr Naiker disregarded the "norms of propriety" becoming the conduct of a Minister.

The former Transport Minister, Mr Mohammed Ali, has been accused of favouritism in respect of purchase of tyres by the State Road Transport Corporation while Mr N.

Chikke Gowda, former Agriculture Minister, is found guilty of acts of favouritism in the appointment of Directors of the Departments of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry respectively.

While the Commission upheld eight of the allegations concerning Mr Urs and his three erstwhile colleagues it also held that there was ground for suspicion in five other cases, though conclusive evidence had not come forth.

Besides indicting Mr Urs and some of his colleagues, the Commission also found that five Ministers in Mr Urs' Cabinet had not acted with a sense of responsibility becoming a Cabinet Minister in the five other cases.

An absurd situation has resulted from the action of the Central Government in forwarding the findings of the Commission to the Karnataka State Government which is headed by Mr Urs himself for "follow-up action". To all intents and purposes the labours of the Grover Commission, extending over a period of two years, have gone waste. How can Mr Urs take action against himself, even though the misuse of power, nepotism and gross favouritism involving the sacrifice of the public interest have been clearly established? The legal position is full of flaws. The Commissions set up by the Central Government have no punitive powers at all.

Separate Ministry for Harijans

In view of the sharp increase in the number of cases of atrocities on members of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, especially cases of murder, ill-treatment, rape, assault and denial of basic rights to these weak sections of society, the establishment of a full-fledged Ministry for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes to look after

all matters concerning their welfare has been recommended by Parliament's "Watchdog Committee" on Scheduled Castes and Tribes in its 31st report on atrocities on these sections of society. The Committee has expressed the view that the existing division of responsibility among the various Central Government departments will not solve the problems of those who have been socially exploited and economically suppressed for centuries.

Referring to the numerous cases of atrocities on Harijans, the Committee says that on the basis of visits to some of the affected areas it found that the administration had failed to rise to the occasion, not only to put down the flare-up but also to take preventive measures for the future.

The Committee squarely holds the Government responsible and says it cannot evade the responsibility for preventing the growing atrocities on the ground that law and order is a State responsibility and not a concern of the Centre. The fact cannot be ignored that the Central Government has the responsibility for "overseeing" the uplift of the weaker sections.

The Central Administration should, therefore, devise ways and means to strengthen its administrative machinery to implement the Constitutional provisions to safeguard the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. It is felt that the Centre should introduce a comprehensive law to define and deal with the subject of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Tribes on the lines of the Civil Rights Protection Act, 1955.

Among the other measures suggested for protecting the Harijans and for preventing the atrocities are: a sound economic programme for the proper rehabilitation of the released bonded labourers, time-bound pro-

grammes for updating the land records and the issuance of "pattas" to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, modernisation of the Police force, and special training to the Police to enable them to protect the Harijans against all such acts and to understand the problems of these backward and largely helpless people.

Dimensions of Foreign Policy

Clarifying certain aspects of India's foreign policy, the External Affairs Minister, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, stated (at the East-West Forum's inaugural function in Delhi) on May 9 that the Government was making a deliberate attempt to resolve the disputes that had bedevilled relations with our immediate neighbours. India's success in this sphere has however been "modest", but there is certainly a much more relaxed atmosphere and mutual trust now than there was some years ago. India can claim that she has scrupulously adhered to the principle of non-interference in the affairs of other nations.

India's basic policy of non-alignment was being earnestly pursued, and in pursuance of this policy the country has endeavoured to build relationships with nations on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty, equality and equitable benefit.

The three other aspects of the Government of India's foreign policy are dynamism, flexibility and the cordial relations with the Super Powers. In relation to the U.S.A., in particular, there has been a fresh dimension, that of equality and shared values in democracy and free speech. Despite the vicissitudes of the past and the persistent differences in perceptions and style, Indo-U.S. trade has been growing fast. The trade quantum has now reached the figure of 2 billion dollars—

the largest foreign trade India has with any foreign country.

But Indo-U.S. friendship has not been at the cost of this country's cordial relations with the Soviet Union and the Socialist Bloc which has always stood by India in times of need. The relations with these countries have been enriched with fresh content and infused with a growing mutual desire to consolidate and expand them further.

In respect of Indo-Soviet relations, in particular, there is hardly any aspect of human or institutional endeavour in which the two countries are not closely collaborating. Delhi-Moscow friendship has, in fact, become an important factor in promoting peace and stability in the Eastern region and in the world.

Guarding against the dangers of inflexibility in foreign policy, India has believed that when a policy falls into the grooves of "petrified positions", it is as good as dead and begins to discredit the country.

India has, therefore, adjusted itself to the new multipoles of power, the whittling down of ideology in some regions and the reassertion of nationalism, together with the fast progress of technology. There is hardly any other example of the amazing continuity that has characterised this country's policy of non-alignment over the past three decades and more.

India's Stand on N-Bomb

To remove all doubts about India's policy in respect of the nuclear bomb, especially in the context of certain contradictory statements made by Indian Ministers and other spokesmen during the past few months, Prime Minister Morarji Desai declared on May 7 that India's stand on nuclear weapons "will not change even if Pakistan explodes an atomic bomb." India

considers that the United States is playing up the weapons capability of Pakistan to force it to accept full-scope safeguards.

Mr Desai reportedly told the Consultative Committee attached to the Department of Atomic Energy that India has rejected Pakistan's suggestion for bilateral safeguards and its demand that India should open its nuclear facilities to international inspection. Possession of atomic bombs by Pakistan would not pose any security threat to India.

Mr Desai's categorical reaffirmation followed suggestions by some members that India should take a flexible attitude on the question because of the recent developments in Pakistan in the nuclear field.

Several M.P.s have quoted facts and circumstances which, according to them, pointed to the possibility of Pakistan having the bomb even within a year.

The Prime Minister interjected to say that even if all these assumptions and facts were correct, it would not be less than three years before Pakistan could succeed in its attempt. Mr Desai also took the opportunity to clarify that there was no contradiction between his approach and that of the External Affairs Ministry in regard to India signing a nuclear-free zone treaty, either with Pakistan or with other countries of South-East Asia. India wanted that the entire world should be a nuclear-free zone.

Mr Desai has already written to U.S. President, Jimmy Carter about Pakistani attempts to manufacture the bomb and had received his reply too. But he would not like to disclose the contents, in public interest. Both Libya and Saudi Arabia were helping Pakistan, financially and otherwise, to manufacture the "Islamic Bomb".

He said there was indisputable evidence to show from CIA reports and those of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission itself that enriched uranium of the bomb grade had been delivered from the United States to Israel and that the latter had built up nuclear arsenals. The External Affairs Ministry was taking up the matter with the U.S. authorities who were constantly pressurising India to accept full-scope safeguards by pointing to Pakistan's bomb-making efforts.

In regard to the manufacture of the bomb by India, Mr Desai said he was quite aware that several people might think otherwise and would want the country to go nuclear. But he was convinced not only on moral but on practical grounds that it would be suicidal to do so.

The Consultative Committee attached to the Department of Atomic Energy was told that the Soviet Union has sent India 200 tonnes of heavy water for use in unit II of the Rajasthan nuclear plant. But the heavy water has been kept under storage for the present. Once it is used, the Rajasthan plant will come under Soviet safeguards.

Mr Desai also told the Committee that India would be free to reprocess the spent fuel of the Tarapur nuclear plant, once the United States stops supply of enriched uranium. Mr Desai said that the stoppage of fuel supplies for Tarapur would constitute a material breach of the co-operation agreement by the U.S. and relieve India completely from any obligation to adhere to any clause of the agreement "including the application of safeguards".

The available enriched uranium stocks in India are estimated to keep normal operation of the Tarapur plant up to 1982. This can be extended to some extent by resorting to operation at reduced output. Meanwhile

alternative fuel cycle schemes are under study.

India to seek More Foreign Aid

India's hunger for foreign economic assistance seems to be insatiable, judging from the ever-increasing demands made by the Government whenever the Aid-India Club meets in Paris in June every year. This time also the Government of India has prepared a strong case for liberal foreign aid by the donor countries, especially West Germany and Japan. The Aid-India Club is due to meet on June 7 and 8.

The Sixth Five-Year Plan has made a provision for a large and generous dose of foreign aid amounting to Rs. 8,000 crores for the period 1978-83. India's exports have slowed down lately and imports have increased largely because of the substantially higher price of international crude and also the soaring fertiliser prices. With Iran already having announced yet another price hike and other OPEC countries also hinting at a further price spurt in oil, India's import bill is likely to go up further. This is causing anxiety to the Government and is bound to impose a further strain on the exchequer; the additional burden because of the costlier oil is estimated at Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 crores.

Although India still has comfortable foreign exchange reserves amounting to about Rs. 5,000 crores, the country's need of foreign aid in the long term is still described as large and urgent to maintain the tempo of development, which has been commended by international experts and organisations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Bank. The problems of poverty and unemployment still pose major challenge, and large investments are required to provide more job opportunities and ex-

pedite all-round economic development, especially of the rural areas.

India has a third of its population below the poverty line and it is argued that, therefore, India's share of foreign aid should be proportionate. Incidentally, India is the largest donor to the Asian Development Bank but does not accept any aid from that source.

It is also argued, as in previous years, that while considering the quantum of aid needed by India, this country should not be penalised for its good economic management and for ensuring all-round stability, in striking contrast to the developments in some of the neighbouring countries where instability is the hallmark and aid is often wasted.

India-Yugoslavia Accord

India and Yugoslavia on May 7 emphasised that non-alignment could play its positive role by continuing to oppose multilateral military alliances and power blocs and expressed their determination to work together for the preservation of the independent character of the movement.

A joint communique issued at the end of the three-day visit of the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, Mr Josip Vrhovec, during which he had extensive talks with the External Affairs Minister, Mr A.B. Vajpayee, reflected the determination of the two founder-members of non-alignment to work for strengthening the unity of the movement.

The two sides "emphasised the determination of their Governments to work together for the preservation of the independent character and established principles of non-alignment and for strengthening solidarity, unity of action and co-operation among non-aligned countries."

The communique came at the end of extensive discussions between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries and their respective delegations on the problems facing the non-aligned movement.

DISPUTES

The communique regretted that in recent years disputes between non-aligned countries were sometimes sought to be resolved through armed conflicts. The two countries expressed their conviction that bilateral problems should be settled peacefully and through negotiations.

The joint communique, which has assumed added significance in view of the meetings of the Non-Aligned Co-ordinating Bureau at Colombo and the subsequent summit at Havana, said that India and Yugoslavia had agreed to work together and with other non-aligned countries for the successful outcome of these meetings.

The communique also expresses the conviction of the two countries that strict adherence to the well-recognised principles of the movement would preserve and strengthen its unity.

Recalling the significant initiatives taken by non-aligned countries in the field of disarmament, the two leaders called for early implementation of the decisions of the Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

They expressed serious concern over the worsening crises in various parts of the world, the increasing resort to the use of force and foreign interventions, the arms race and the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries.

The two sides stressed the need to universalise detente through the active participation of all nations and extend it to all parts of the world.

Indo-Bangladesh Talks on Ganga

As an outcome of the Indo-Bangladesh accord on Farakka reached in 1977, the two countries have held frequent talks on the question of augmenting the flow of the Ganga so as to benefit all the states of the eastern region. The latest round of the talks was held in Delhi for five days—from May 7 to May 12, and the two delegations decided to constitute a committee to study the question of approaching Nepal on the proposal of Bangladesh for augmenting the Ganga flow and make recommendations regarding the methods and manner of achieving this object.

According to the joint statement issued after the talks between the teams of experts and other officials of the two countries—the discussions on other issues—those of Tista waters, the Khawal river and border rivers—will be continued at the next session of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Commission scheduled to be held in Dacca (the 17th of the series) on a mutually convenient date to be fixed later.

The Delhi talks, like those held earlier in Dacca, were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship. The Indian delegation was led by the Union Minister for Irrigation, Mr S.S. Barnala and the Bangladesh team by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr M. Ahmed, who is also in charge of the Ministry of Power, Water, Resources and Flood Control of Bangladesh.

So far, India's stand has been that Nepal, though a friendly country, need not be asked to participate in the Indo-Bangladesh talks on Ganga waters. The argument that simply because the Ganga originates in a part of Nepal that country should have a say in the matter of augmenting the flow of water can, it is pointed out, be extended to China be-

cause certain rivers of the Indian sub-continent originate in Tibet. This would mean needless internationalisation of bilateral issues—a trend which Pakistan, Bangladesh, the U.S.A. and Britain have lately been encouraging for strategic, political and other reasons.

It may be recalled that during their visit to India early in 1978 (January and February), President Jimmy Carter of the U.S.A. and the then British Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, advocated such a plan and showed interest in drawing up and implementing a scheme which would develop the irrigation resources of the Eastern rivers so as to benefit India, Bangladesh and other regions. The involvement of international agencies like the World Bank etc. was also envisaged. Adequate finances for executing the scheme were assured.

Who "Saved" Pakistan from India?

The storm created by the allegations made in former Ambassador Mr Patrick Moynihan's book "A Dangerous Place" to the effect that large sums of money were paid by U.S. secret agencies (the C.I.A.) to Mrs Indira Gandhi and the Congress Party to fight the elections so as to keep the Communists out, has hardly abated. Even now demands are made for more details about the American funds. Mr Moynihan insists that the charge is true, though Mrs Gandhi has repeatedly denied it. Mrs Gandhi's image has, however, been further eroded because the general impression in India and elsewhere is that Mr Moynihan's version is true.

And now comes another book, this time from former President Richard Nixon, another American V.I.P., who claims that it was he who, by

taking timely action, saved West Pakistan when India was "threatening" the integrity of that country. Eight years after his notorious "tilt" in favour of Pakistan (associated with Mr John Foster Dulles), which moulded the history of the sub-continent in 1971 when Bangladesh became free, he has stated that he promptly despatched the U.S. fleet to the Bay of Bengal and issued some implicit warnings which, according to him, saved the situation for West Pakistan.

In an 8-page section of his book "The Memoirs of Richard Nixon" the author states that India was about to annex two Pakistani States, Baluchistan and Pakhtoonistan. But it was then pointed out that Baluchistan does not even border India and Pakhtoonistan was far, far away and India could not take it anyhow. But the anti-Indian prejudices in the minds of senior U.S. officials were apparent.

Mr Nixon says he wanted the Russians to know that the U.S. would strongly oppose the dismemberment of Pakistan by a Soviet ally using Soviet arms.

Mrs Gandhi also comes in for adverse comments in Mr Nixon's book. "Mrs Gandhi had purposely deceived me during her November 4, 1971, visit to Washington by secretly planning war while assuring me that India has never wished the destruction of Pakistan or its permanent crippling."

Another interesting disclosure is that U.S. Intelligence had entry to an Indian Cabinet meeting where it found that "Mrs Gandhi had led a discussion of plans to expand the war on the Western front and to invade West Pakistan." It was then that he started to really pressurise the Russians to restrain India and, for his part, ordered a nuclear aircraft-carrier task force to go steaming into the Indian waters.

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SALT at Long Last

On May 9 a broad agreement was reached between the two Super Powers, the Soviet Union and the U.S.A., on SALT-II after about six years of protracted negotiations during which there were many ups and downs. Though certain details have yet to be worked out and the treaty will be signed only after dates are fixed for a summit meeting between Mr Carter and Mr Brezhnev, probably in Europe, the U.S.A. has already made it known that the differences have been resolved and that limitation of strategic arms will soon become a reality.

The main provisions of the new agreement are:

1. Each Power would limit itself initially to 2,400 strategic missiles and bombers. The overall limit would drop to 2,250 in 1981. The sub-ceilings within those ceilings are: no more than 820 land-based missiles with multiple warheads (MIRVs), no more than 1,200 land and sea-based MIRVs and more than 1,320 total MIRVs and bombers equipped with cruise missiles.

2. Russia will, by 1981, have to destroy 270 aging missiles; it will also not deploy SS-16 mobile missiles. The U.S.A., in turn, might have to destroy 35 B-52s by 1985 depending upon when its Trident submarines are deployed.

3. New Weapons: "The two Powers will be allowed to equip their bombers with new cruise missiles and to develop one new land-based missile each.

Each Power will be allowed to develop as many new types of submarine-based missiles as it wishes and also substantially increase the number of warheads from 8,500 to over 12,000 for the U.S.A., and from 4,000 to more than 8,000 for the Soviet Union.

4. The treaty will run through 1985 with a protocol that would expire at the end of 1981.

When the treaty is signed and ratified by the U.S. Senate, it is expected to become a cornerstone for still further limits and reductions in SALT-III—the next treaty.

China described the treaty as a "hide and seek" game between the two Powers. "In fact the two are working overtime to produce more weapons and more sophisticated means of reconnaissance."

President Carter claimed that SALT-II in no way detracted from U.S. military capacity. The treaty is not a substitute for a strong defence.

The U.S.A. has decided to continue maintaining an effective and flexible military capacity. Fears and suspicions about SALT-II continue in the U.S.A. and some Senators have already threatened to return the treaty. Some feel that the treaty favours the Soviet Union. The treaty will be signed on June 15.

Nuclear material for Pak

Reports of secret supplies of nuclear weapon-grade material

to Pakistan by certain foreign firms were confirmed on May 7 when two leading firms of Switzerland admitted that they had delivered auxiliary equipment for a uranium enrichment plant to Pakistan, following the formal clearance given by the Swiss Government. The U.S.A. had earlier expressed serious concern over the deal because it violated the conditions internationally prescribed with a view to checking the proliferation of nuclear plants which are set up without full-scope safeguards.

According to the disclosures now made, the two firms had arranged shipments of gas handling units and vacuum proof valves ordered by the Special Works Organisation of Rawalpindi and delivered to Pakistan in June, 1978. The firms' spokesmen, however, claimed that the shipment did not violate the prescribed international norms and guidelines against the export of "peaceful nuclear material" of military potential.

The Swiss Government, it is now learnt, had cleared the shipment in the belief that it would not be a violation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty or the guidelines laid down by the London Club of Nuclear Powers.

It may be noted that Switzerland had agreed to the treaty banning the spread of atomic weapons to non-weapon States and the London guidelines against export of any nuclear material of military potential. The manager of the firm supplying valves claimed that it had been selling vacuum valves mainly for nuclear and space engineering all over the world for years.

Evidently, several international firms have been selling material to Pakistan on purely commercial considerations, in many cases with the full knowledge that the equipment would be utilised for developing

nuclear capability. Similar allegations have also been made against some French, British and West German companies.

UNCTAD-V : A "battlefield"

The long awaited UNCTAD-V session opened at Manila (the Philippines) on May 7, with the usual expression of hope that the richer countries would share their prosperity with the rest of humanity and not prefer to live in isolation in islands of prosperity. There were also expressions of despair at the slow progress of the recurring negotiations.

President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines opened the session with an emotional appeal to the delegates to reach agreements which would ensure a balance between the rich and the poor. There was no more time for a long-drawn-out debate on reorganising the world's economy which had now been going on for more than 20 years, he told delegates from 159 countries gathered there.

There was a feeling of helplessness in both the developed and the developing nations, the latter facing what seemed to be insurmountable economic problems. "But the great number of the deprived people can no longer wait. They cannot wait for further studies....."

The wide agenda of the month-long conference covered all the pressing problems of the world—from the need for reform in trade and development, to the necessity of the Third World to depend more on self-reliance, inter-dependence rather than aid. But he appealed to the conference not to get bogged down in factionalism and to regard themselves as representatives of mankind as a whole and not of different political and economic blocs.

"What UNCTAD-V must do is to break the vicious cycle

of crises, and by one single, pragmatic act of accommodation rather than arrogant confrontation, start a momentum of change and creativity which can solve our present discomfort."

Earlier, his wife Imelda Marcos, as Governor of Manila and leader of her country's delegation, unexpectedly announced that she would not be accepting the usual honour of presiding over the month-long conference as leader of the host delegation. She gave no reason for this.

Mrs Marcos reminded the conference that in the International Year of the Child, UNCTAD should think of the better future of children—future for them to work and live in dignity and honour. Courage and solidarity among the nations could go a long way in meeting the problems of mankind. Whatever the differences among the nations, they were all talking of the same thing, namely, human survival. So the developed and developing countries should work together and not forget the people.

The United Nations Secretary-General, Dr Kurt Waldheim, pleaded with rich, poor and Socialist countries to get together urgently to bring about a more equitable economic order and said the developed world should not await its economic recovery to bring about changes.

He warned the rich countries that their long-term growth potential and recovery could not be achieved without a radical restructuring of the world economy that would help the poor countries which were increasingly getting frustrated. He called for acceptance of new principles and discipline to increase imports from developing countries. "As never before, the relationship between the industrialised countries of the North and the developing countries of the South poses one of the greatest

challenges of our times", Dr Waldheim said.

No one nation, no one region, no one system can cope with the problems alone. It is a global problem and it demands a global solution. The well-being of all groups and nations was now threatened by the extremely slow progress towards a new international economic order and by the continued economic malaise in the developed market economy countries.

New Phase in Rhodesia

Despite the refusal of the United Nations and the world's vast majority to recognise the elections held by Mr Ian Smith, the White leader of the dominant community in that country, the changeover from White to Black majority rule in Rhodesia (new name Zimbabwe) has proceeded according to plan. On May 8 the members of Rhodesia's Black majority rule Parliament were sworn in and then it elected a black Speaker and Deputy Speaker. Eighty-eight M.P.s were sworn in, 60 black and 28 Whites.

Rhodesia's first black Prime Minister-designate is Bishop Abel Muzorewa whose United African National Council, closely associated with Mr Ian Smith, has been acting as a tool of the racists, while the real spokesman of the blacks, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, leader of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), which could win only 12 seats in the new Parliament in the election held in April, boycotted the swearing-in ceremony. ZANU accuses Bishop Muzorewa of having betrayed the cause of the blacks.

Bishop Muzorewa will formally assume office as Prime Minister in June. The country, a breakaway British colony, will be known, under the new Constitution that has been cleverly drafted by Mr Ian Smith, as "Zimbabwe-Rhodesia".

The election result analysis now available provides an insight into the way the farce was managed. About 64 per cent of the blacks (1.9 million) eligible to vote were reported to have participated, but there were repeated allegations of the black nationalists that pressures had been exercised and that the poll was far from free and fair. Ballot-stuffing and rigging were also reported from various regions. Sithole, a colleague of the Prime Minister-designate in the Executive Council of the Interim Government, alleged "gross irregularities" especially in poor regions. Muzorewa's Party won 67 per cent of the popular vote and 51 of the 72 seats reserved for blacks.

Like many other African and other leaders, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has denounced the elections. He went to the extent of warning that if South Africa entered into a military alliance with the new regime in Salisbury, he would feel compelled to seek more Soviet and Chinese arms in his effort to stop Rhodesian attacks on the Guerrilla camps in his country.

Naturally, the foremost attempt of the new Salisbury Government will be to win international recognition and end the U.N. ordered economic sanctions that have been imposed on Rhodesia, but neither of the Big Powers, the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union, is willing to lift the sanctions, or to recognise the fake regime so soon, despite the pressure by the whites and their collaborators in many countries.

China-Vietnam Conflict

Even though China announced the withdrawal of its forces from Vietnam territory several weeks ago and the border war between the two countries was supposed to have ended after the Chinese invading forces

had learnt a bitter lesson at the hands of the brave and determined people of Vietnam, Madame Nguyen Binh, Education Minister of Vietnam, who was on a goodwill visit to India early in May, stated in Delhi on May 10 that China was still occupying 10 strategic pockets inside the territory of Vietnam.

According to reports, the Chinese had also massed about half a million troops near the Vietnamese and Laotian borders in readiness to launch another attack.

The border situation in the region continues to be tense, and it is widely feared that another armed clash is inevitable. At any rate, the Chinese seemed determined to wreak vengeance on the Vietnamese to avenge the humiliation they suffered at the hands of the latter. China has repeatedly violated the air space and land area of Vietnam.

Moreover, China was also supplying arms and other equipment to the ousted regime of Pol Pot. Madame Binh claimed that during the recent Chinese invasion the Vietnamese had inflicted heavy damage on the aggressors and captured hundreds of prisoners and seized large quantities of arms and ammunition.

She alleged that Chinese forces had also committed several atrocities, hacked several innocent men, women and children to death and destroyed schools, hospitals and other institutions as part of what could be called their "scorched earth" policy.

The Vietnamese feel convinced that China regards an independent and strong Vietnam as an obstacle to its hegemonic ambitions in South Asia. The Chinese apparently presumed that the Vietnamese had become too weak, after their long struggle against the Americans, to stand another war. Vietnam,

on the other hand, was keen to establish normal relations with China and to help create a zone of peace in South-East Asia. But the eight-point plan proposed by China was evidently aimed at subjugating Vietnam.

However, Vietnam has been widely criticised in India and elsewhere for its aggression against Kampuchea (Cambodia) and using force, even though with the help of the Cambodian rebels, to oust the Pol Pot regime. India has been demanding the vacation of aggression by both Vietnam and China. India has not so far recognised the Pol Pot regime.

Britain's First Woman Prime Minister

Britain turned a new leaf in its eventful political history on May 3 when it voted to power the Conservative Party (the Tories) led by a woman, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, 53, who thus became that country's first woman Prime Minister. She is the first woman Prime Minister not only of Britain but also of the industrialised West. In this sphere, Asia had already established the lead: Mrs Gandhi was Prime Minister of India for about 11 years; earlier, Mrs Golda Meir was Prime Minister of Israel, and Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka. At present Mrs Thatcher is the world's only woman Prime Minister.

Mrs Thatcher's party also secured a fairly comfortable majority, with 339 seats against Labour's 268 in a House of 635, the Liberals getting only 11 and the Ulster Unionists 10. For the past few years the ruling party, specially Labour, had only a bare majority, or even a minority backing (as Mr James Callaghan the outgoing Prime Minister had in the last phase of his rule).

Labour fared badly, losing many valuable seats. There has

been speculation that after his electoral setback Mr Callaghan may even retire to his farm house and yield the party leadership to another Labour leader.

The Liberal leader, Mr David Steel, won by a bigger majority than before, and the former party leader, Mr Jeremy Thorpe, who is involved in a scandal and is on trial on a murder charge, was defeated.

Incidentally, the only woman leader to be defeated in the elections was Mrs Shirley Williams, the outgoing Labour Education Minister.

The voting revealed another new feature: a north-south split with Labour holding up well in Scotland and the North, and the Tories scoring in the Midlands and the south of England.

India's relations with Britain are unlikely to change with the switch in the ruling party there. Government-to-government relations are impersonal. Mr Desai was quite friendly with Mr Callaghan, but he had once offended Mrs Thatcher by saying that women leaders tend to be more tyrannical. She has forgiven Mr Desai this remark since she knows Mr Desai's general views and also because he had Mrs Gandhi in mind more than any other woman politician in power.

However, there is serious concern over the fate of Indian immigrants because Mrs Thatcher stands committed to following a policy of strict control over the entry of Asian immigrants. The prospects of fresh entrants into Britain have therefore diminished.

Plight of Emigrants

Asians who migrate to countries in the West are in a sorry plight and worse is in store for them in the coming years. Britain has decided to impose restrictions on the entry of Asians.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Britain's new Prime Minister, in fact stands committed to the imposition of such restrictions.

More immigrants now go to Western Europe than to the U.S.A., and in many countries they are exploited, underpaid and discriminated against, according to the World Federation of Trade Unions. In a report to the Economic and Social Council, published recently, the Federation said the situation for illegal immigrants was most difficult, but it was "no less disgraceful" for temporary migrants. Even legal immigrants usually had to settle for jobs with very limited prospects. In West Germany, France and Switzerland, arduous, unhealthy and badly paid jobs were increasingly becoming the domain left to foreigners, according to the report. In one region most miners were migrant workers.

In all the West European host countries immigrants rarely reach the higher position of a skilled worker, according to the Federation which said employers were just not interested in providing vocational training. In the U.S.A., 600,000 Puerto Ricans were in unskilled jobs, while illegal immigrants represented "a real bonanza" for U.S. employers. Everywhere migrant workers are in those occupations where the lowest wages are paid. There are also other forms of discrimination against immigrants, expressed by differences between migrant workers' average and local workers' average wages. For example, French wage-earners received an average of 57 per cent more than immigrant workers.

Migrant workers lived in overcrowded slums and shanty towns, which are insanitary and a source of exploitation. While primary schools were available, half the immigrant children in

West Germany did not attend school.

Democracy in Bangladesh

A notable development in recent weeks has been the return of democracy to Bangladesh, which for many months after the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was under a military dictatorship. The leader who has facilitated this change, held a general election and granted certain basic rights to the people of the country, is President Ziaur Rahman who has simultaneously ensured a certain measure of political stability alongside parliamentary democracy. He has given up his military post and has been trying to restore genuine civilian government. In April a new Parliament began its session and a full-fledged Ministry comprising civilians and a few others was installed.

Sheikh Mujib won freedom for Bangladesh but himself fell a victim, along with all members of his family, to the assassin's bullet. The return to popular, or near-popular, rule was in a low key, but perhaps that could not be helped in the circumstances. President Zia is still in overall command, assisted by a team which is loyal to him and which is unlikely to question his decisions. In the Bangladesh Parliament the majority party is the President's own Nationalist Party which won 207 seats in the country's 300-member legislature, the main Opposition being the Awami League of former leader Sheikh Mujib which won 39 seats, followed by the Rightist Islamic Democratic League with 20 seats. There are 16 Independents.

President Zia has proved to be far more liberal and broadly secular in outlook than his counterpart in Pakistan, Gen Zia-ul-Haque. The Bangladesh leader has advised his country-

men to shun the politics of division. He ended martial law on April 6 after 3½ years and ceased to be the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, though as President he will continue to be their Supreme Commander. A three-tier 42-strong Ministry was sworn in April with Shah Azizur Rahman as Prime Minister. On April 30 the Vice-President, Mr Abdus Sattar, declared that the Bangladesh Government did not accept the two-nation theory and will not opt for an Islamic State in the sense in which Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are. The demand for separate electorates has been turned down. He said Bangladesh had a Presidential form of Government with the President wielding all executive powers and Parliament having legislative powers, as in the U.S.A. Later, on May 3, Mr Sattar said Bangladesh believed in equal rights of all citizens irrespective of religious beliefs as enshrined in the Constitution. Muslims constitute 90 per cent of that country's population.

Pakistan to join Non-aligned

In 1977-78 Pakistan made repeated efforts to secure entry into the Club of the Non-aligned. To some extent it succeeded, thanks to the support given by India and certain other countries. At the Belgrade session (in July, 1978) of the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers Pakistan was given the status of an observer. Since then it has felt encouraged to seek full-fledged membership of the Non-aligned Group.

Pakistan withdrew from CENTO on March 28, followed by Iran. The question of Pakistan's admission to the Non-aligned community was discussed during the three-day official visit to Delhi of Yugoslavia's Foreign Minister, Mr Josip Vrhovec. Both countries hold the view that there should

be no difficulty in admitting Pakistan, particularly because the latter is no longer associated with any military alliance. It quit CENTO in 1972. Pakistan now asserts that it is no longer a member of any multilateral alliance and is, therefore, fully qualified for admission.

Almost the only country which is likely to oppose the entry of Pakistan to the Non-aligned Club is Afghanistan which has for years been basically hostile to the regime in Islamabad. It is possible that Afghanistan, with the backing of Moscow, may mobilise the support of certain other non-aligned countries to prevent the entry of Pakistan when the Non-aligned Bureau meets in Colombo early in June. The position has, however, changed in favour of Pakistan.

It is, however, strange that Iran which had announced its intention to follow strictly a non-aligned policy, soon after the exit of the Shah, has not pursued the matter since then. The Iranian Foreign Minister was reported on March 16, 1979, to have written to the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference intimating his country's desire to join the movement. However, a formal application from Iran has not yet been sent to the Bureau Chairman, Sri Lanka.

According to indications, the 25-nation Non-aligned Coordinating Bureau is expected to approve Pakistan's application during its Colombo meeting and recommend Pakistan's entry at the next non-aligned summit in Havana in September.

Islamic Boycott of Egypt

Egypt is paying the price of signing a separate Peace Treaty with Israel, and both President Sadat and his country may suffer even more as the years pass for

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Pakistan's Nuclear and Islamic Bomb

Pakistan's decision to acquire all the paraphernalia and the capability for manufacturing a nuclear bomb despite the advice and implied warnings of the U.S.A. has created a new factor that may have far-reaching consequences in the Asian sub-continent and also in West Asia. On March 8 Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, External Affairs Minister, informed the Lok Sabha that the Government of India was fully aware of Pakistan's nuclear programme which might not be entirely for peaceful purposes. Although in his reply to Mr Morarji Desai's letter, Gen Zia-ul-Haque stated that Pakistan's intentions were peaceful, he also reminded India that this country had an entire fuel cycle outside the safeguards system; so India could at any time, if she so chose, manufacture a nuclear bomb.

Gen Zia was evidently echoing the doubts expressed by the late Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in his reply to a letter sent by Mrs Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, on May 22, 1974, soon after the Pokharan explosion. Mrs Gandhi stated: "We remain fully committed to our traditional policy of developing nuclear energy resources entirely for peaceful purposes" Mr Bhutto retorted: "It is a question not only of intentions but of capabilities. It is well-established that the testing of a nuclear device is no different from the detonation of a nuclear weapon. How is it possible for our fears to be assuaged by mere assurances which may, in any case, be ignored in coming years. Governments

change, as do national attitudes. But the acquisition of a capability which has direct and immediate military consequences, becomes a permanent factor to be reckoned with." India may now counter Pakistan's plea with the same arguments and with even greater force. The Pakistan General has professed peaceful intentions but a pronouncedly military regime, which has no democratic base, is the least reliable in respect of military policies. It generally seeks a populist policy to justify its stand. The fact is that during the past five years, ever since the Pokharan explosion of 1974, Pakistan has been seeking nuclear facilities from one source and then from another, and it has now reached a stage when it is actively constructing a nuclear plan at Kahuta, 50 km from Rawalpindi. Reports from the U.S.A. on April 7 confirmed that Pakistan was indeed acquiring nuclear technology with components and spares bought from Britain, West Germany and some other countries. Since the problem of acquiring enriched uranium was proving to be a tough one (as India has lately learnt), Pakistan has opted for an alternative method of developing nuclear capability—the acquisition of centrifugal equipment to **e n r i c h** radio-active uranium.

Earlier, Mr Bhutto had launched a crash nuclear weapons programme under Saudi Arabia sponsorship. He admitted this in his death-bed testament "If I am assassinated". Pakistan had been negotiating with France for the establish-

ment of a plant to recycle nuclear fuel, and the deal was reported to have been finalised in July, 1978. But later, under pressure from the U.S.A. and for certain other reasons, France backed out and insisted on the acceptance by Pakistan of full international safeguards and strict international supervision. So the deal fell through. But Pakistan did not give up its intentions to develop nuclear capability so as ultimately to match India's.

Denial is generally regarded as the most diplomatic method of throwing other people off their guard. On April 21 President Zia denied that Pakistan was building a nuclear power plant, but he asserted Pakistan's right to acquire nuclear technology irrespective of hurdles. He even said the deal with France was not "off", thus leaving his options open. Besides, the very fact (as revealed by Mr A.B. Vajpayee on April 23) that Pakistan is importing weapons-grade uranium shows its intentions. In respect of Pakistan's bid for a nuclear plant evidence has come from various sources to reveal the reality. An American scientist, Mr Philips, said recently that he had been invited to assist Pakistan to manufacturing a nuclear bomb. Pakistan scientists already possess the requisite nuclear knowledge to manufacture the nuclear bomb. Besides, the U.S. Government would not have stopped further economic aid (by an announcement made on April 6) on mere rumours; it had firm evidence of Pakistan's bid for a full-scale

nuclear establishment. The US Government again affirmed the position when, on April 17, 1979, the Carter Administration revived its offer to Pakistan to sell fighter aircraft, and even nuclear power assistance, if the Islamabad regime agreed to place all its nuclear facilities under international safeguards. Pakistan was told that the U.S. would be willing to sell to Pakistan 50 Northrop F-5E Tiger fighters, equipped with advanced air-to-ground missiles. The USA offered another lollypop—support to Pakistan's proposal for a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South-East Asia and actively pursue it through diplomatic channels with other countries. India has been rejecting this proposal at the U.N. on the ground that the formation of such a zone with a limited geographical area does not provide safety in the event of a nuclear holocaust. The basic reasons why the USA has made such offers to Pakistan is its desire to wean Pakistan away from its present plans to produce nuclear explosives with enriched uranium through the assistance of other countries.

But there is reason to believe that Pakistan had already made the necessary calculations about the financial position in case the USA stopped its economic aid totalling about 85 million dollars. It is reported that some of the Middle East Islamic countries, which have plenty of petro-dollars to spare, have already promised substantial sums to Pakistan to make up for the loss of U.S. aid. These countries need Pakistan because they themselves have virtually no facilities for nuclear development, and, what is more, they need the nuclear bomb, or the "Islamic Bomb", as it is now called since it would be the joint endeavour of a group of Muslim countries. To the question why the Muslim nations need the bomb the answer is simple: to destroy Israel—their arch

enemy. Israel is suspected of having the nuclear capability through the active assistance of the USA and certain other Western countries. Israel has won all the wars against the Arabs in the past two decades, even though its own army is much smaller than the massive (but inefficient) forces of the Arab countries.

But the problem is not so simple. Israel is a step ahead in technology of various types and is unlikely to remain quiet while the Arabs make preparations for a nuclear bomb. So the possibility is being mentioned of the Islamic bomb being used to blackmail countries in the East. If, meanwhile, India sticks to her policy of never manufacturing nuclear weapons, in accordance with her policy of peace, Pakistan may well have a military advantage over India. All these years India has refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and lately the U.S.A. has been trying to pressurise this country to accept the full-scope nuclear safeguards and international inspection of her nuclear stations. So far India has resisted the pressure, but one cannot be sure that indirect acceptance (say, through the joint panel of experts which India has joined) will never be allowed. Political exigencies often mould the policies of many nations, and India cannot be an exception, especially if there is a threat of war from some quarter, say Pakistan or China. India has also to be cautious against any "traps", like the one laid by General Zia-ul-Haque (presumably at U.S. promptings) asking India to accept a plan for a nuclear-free zone in South Asia. The new suggestion is for a joint declaration, with the tag of "international or bilateral inspection", all of which is a camouflage for the American proposal which India has turned down.

Pakistan has at present two

atomic reactors, though small ones. The first is a 5-MWE research reactor at Nilore ("Critical" since 1965), but it is too small for storing any plutonium. The second is a bigger one—the 137-MWE reactor KANUPP, near Karachi, which has been functioning since the end of 1972 and is believed to be capable of producing 30 kg of plutonium annually. But both these reactors are under international (IAEA) safeguards. Pakistan would be risking the loss of foreign technology and of U.S. nuclear material if it defied the wishes of the Western powers and went ahead with its project for a new plant near Rawalpindi. One of Pakistan's handicaps is that neither of the two reactors it now possesses has facilities for preparing explosive material. Through a complicated technical process, the KANUPP reactor can be used for producing weapons-grade plutonium. But in Pakistan there is no uranium fuel fabrication plant or facility and no heavy water plant. Heavy water is necessary for running an atomic reactor. It may be noted that heavy water prepared at Nangal (Punjab) is sent to the Tarapur atomic power plant.

Pakistan is, however, undeterred by its handicaps in respect of nuclear power generation. According to reports, the Government of Pakistan has already drawn up plans for setting up at least 20 nuclear power plants by the turn of the century, even though that country does not have the requisite infra-structure for these plants. Since the foreign powers now have suspicions of Pakistan's intentions in respect of nuclear weapons, foreign technology and other facilities are unlikely to be made available to that country to enable it to implement its ambitious programme. The Nuclear Suppliers' Club is becoming strict now,

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Non-alignment: A Movement on the Decline

Socialism, a leading British political philosopher once said, was like a hat which had been worn by too many people and had consequently lost its shape. All the indications are that, similarly, non-alignment, which was started as a glorious and eminently acceptable doctrine of peaceful co-existence among States and respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, has now declined and lost its original shape and contours. The main reason is the same: the membership of this group has fast expanded, with all sorts of countries joining the club of independent and uncommitted nations.

While the movement has gained strength in numbers, it has lost some of its outstanding and distinguishing characteristics because of the various pulls and pressures exercised by the Big Powers who have pulled strings and won over several weak and economically unviable nations through subtle (and in some cases, not so subtle) offers of economic and military aid. In consequence, non-alignment has become diluted and in its present form it presents a striking contrast with the original form and moral strength which it commanded in the days of the famous founding fathers—Nehru, Tito, Nasser and Sukarno.

The membership of the non-aligned group is now 88, the latest countries to seek membership being Iran and Pakistan. Both of these countries were long associated with military alliances, notably CENTO (Central Treaty Organisation) but

on finding that the alliance has lost all relevance in the changed conditions they have left the organisation and have declared that they intend to remain non-aligned. Radio Pakistan announced on April 1, 1979, that Pakistan was confident of being admitted as a full member of the non-aligned movement because of its withdrawal from CENTO, announced on March 12 this year. Membership of this military alliance (which grouped Pakistan, Iran and Turkey, with links with the U.S.A. and Britain) it was said, was the "only" remaining obstacle to their full membership of the non-aligned body. Pakistan formally applied for membership of the movement through a letter sent to the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka (the current chairman of the group). The 25-nation Non-aligned Co-ordination Bureau will consider Pakistan's request for entry at its next meeting in Colombo in June and is expected to recommend it for acceptance by the next non-aligned summit in Havana (Cuba) in September this year.

As for Iran, while the Shah, now in exile—widely believed to be permanent—fully associated himself and his country with Western military alliances, the new Government headed by Ayatollah Khomeini has broken away from the West and has declared its intention to pursue a policy of non-alignment in foreign affairs. Confirming Iran's new policy trends, the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Ahmed Salamati, said on March 21, 1979, that Iran was

in correspondence with several non-aligned governments about its request that it be allowed to join the movement and attend the Havana summit in September. The essential point is that Iran had a bad experience of military blocs, and the pacts to which it belonged had admittedly proved disastrous. Iran's new foreign policy, according to official spokesmen, must be in consonance with the country's domestic policy which aimed at recovering national wealth, obtaining political, economic, military and cultural independence and eliminating the last vestiges of foreign domination in the country. The new Iran stands for just international relations and believes in fighting racial discrimination and violation of human rights, like other non-aligned countries.

Marshal Tito, the sole surviving leader of the non-alignment movement founding fathers, has lately felt concerned at the new bid to weaken the movement. On April 7, 1979, Yugoslavia issued a fresh condemnation of the efforts to subject the movement of non-aligned nations to "bloc and other narrow interests". The statement was apparently aimed at Cuba, Vietnam and other critics of Yugoslavia's policy within the non-aligned movement. It is widely believed that Yugoslavia is opposed to the growing pro-Soviet camp in the non-aligned movement. In particular, it has criticised Cuba for its military activities in Africa.

Cuba's role in several African countries has indeed been highly controversial. Backed,

both directly and indirectly by the Soviet Union, Cuban forces have intervened in the internal affairs of several African countries, even though such intervention violates the principles of non-alignment. Cuba has, in fact, been quoted by the USA and other Western Governments as a notorious example which has caused a loss of credibility to non-alignment.

In this connection a development that took place on April 5 in New Delhi deserves to be noticed. The Foreign Minister of Somalia, who was on a visit to India and met Prime Minister Morarji Desai as well as the External Affairs Minister, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, urged the Government of India to ensure a change in the venue of the next non-aligned summit from Havana to another place because of the intervention of both the Soviet Union and Cuba in Ethiopia against Somalia. India made it clear to Somalia that there was no question of changing the venue because the decision was taken in 1976 and the then Government of Somalia was a party to it. Actually, Somalia was at that time receiving military aid from Russia and other East European countries when it launched an attack on the Ogaden province of Ethiopia. It is not certain whether Somalia will attend the summit in the changed situation; it has ceased to be a Soviet ally.

Other controversial issues which the non-aligned nations have to face concern the recent invasion of Vietnam by China and the earlier attack by Vietnam against Cambodia (Kampuchea), China's intentions in South-East Asia, Libya's assistance to President Idi Amin of Uganda and the intervention of Cuba and Ethiopia in the war between North Yemen and South Yemen. The meeting of the Non-aligned Co-ordinating Bureau, held at the end of

March, 1979, at Maputo (Mozambique), evaded these issues for fear that a discussion might cause a rift in the lute of the non-aligned.

Such tactics to sweep controversies under the carpet cannot continue for long, and the very fact that these issues are not openly discussed indicate that all is not well with non-alignment, that there is no solidarity among them, and also that several of the so-called non-aligned countries are not genuinely non-aligned but are under the Communist umbrella. It is estimated that 15 to 20 States almost blindly support all Soviet actions and yet they belong to the non-aligned group. There need be no doubt that the Soviet-backed Vietnamese action in Kampuchea will be questioned by countries such as Egypt, Yugoslavia and Saudi Arabia at the next meeting of the non-aligned countries.

It is obvious that the club of the non-aligned has drifted away from the ideals and principles laid down by Nehru, Nasser and Tito way back in the Sixties. Expediency and immediate self-interest have now taken the place of principles, and the common interests of the non-aligned community as a whole and of the movement are being sacrificed time and again. The rich nations contribute their mite for the development of countries which are their protégés, not to common development funds. In effect, the non-aligned group can now afford to hold only general debates, take a stand only on non-controversial problems and they dare not take up issues that touch some of the members themselves. Western colonialism, imperialism and apartheid are perhaps the only issues, besides the importance of setting up a new International Economic Order and ensuring social and economic justice, which are left to be safely discussed at

forums of the non-aligned group.

India still claims that non-alignment is very much alive and that her own policy is one of genuine non-alignment. But here again there have been accusations of a tilt towards the Soviet Union. The Indo-Soviet Friendship and Mutual Assistance Treaty, first signed in 1971, stands and has been reaffirmed following Mr Kosygin's visit to India earlier this year. India also reaffirms the basic principles of non-alignment whenever a foreign dignitary visits this country and a joint communique is issued. But there is a point in Mrs Gandhi's criticism that the non-aligned movement has lost the initiative and thrust it had some years ago. How is it that the Government of India has not taken a firm and positive stand on the issue of Vietnam and Kampuchea? Is it the fear of offending Russia and China that has deterred Delhi from taking up a firm stand? Mr Morarji Desai claims that he has practised non-alignment in its proper spirit and substance. But many people differ on this issue.

The discord among the non-aligned nations over Indo-China was confirmed by the Indonesian Foreign Minister early in March when he said at Jakarta that the non-aligned group was split over the ASEAN statement sent to the U.N. Security Council for settlement of the Indo-China conflict. The statement received support from Western nations, including the U.S.A., but so sharp is the conflict of interests that what suits most of the Western countries does not suit the East. Since the non-aligned nations did not support the ASEAN draft the move was stalled. Some non-aligned countries express certain views privately but do not express them openly. So the rift in the non-alignment club has started, the movement stands diluted, and it has ceased to be an effective force in international relations.

Abolish or Reform the Examination System?

No student dreads anything more than the spectre of examinations. And yet, he/she faces it willy-nilly. Our efforts have always been to help him/her conquer the nightmare of examination. Here we seek to examine whether examination system prevailing in India need be abolished to free the students from the complex of fear (and, in some cases, the examination fever). Or can it be suitably reformed to serve a useful purpose? —Editor

Examinations are but benchmarks in the academic career of students. The system of examinations prevailing in India has been under fire for decades now. The Kothari Education Commission (1964-66) observed: "The crippling effect of external examinations on the quality of work in higher education is so great that examination reform has become crucial to all progress, and has to go hand in hand with the improvements in teaching". A host of committees and commissions have from time to time made recommendations on examination reforms. These have been experimented upon, repealed, modified and, in some cases, abandoned in utter despair. The result is a complex mass of options and the academicians are back to square one with no clear-cut solution in sight. The recent developments of blatant vandalism, arson, riots, mass copying and indefinite postponement of examinations in certain leading universities of our country have forced thinking *de novo*. The cynics believe that all this points to not only a thoroughly corrupt but also a callous examination system which can inspire the least confidence in students.

In our discussion of the proposition we must answer first two questions: (a) Are examinations inevitable? (b) If yes, what should be the new pattern?

Limited Objectives: The inevitability or otherwise and the

pattern of examinations would be determined by the objectives they are to subserve. Examinations are intended to serve only limited objectives. They mark the end of a stipulated stage of learning accomplished in the system of formal education in schools, colleges and universities. For determining the level of attainments and proficiency of a student only two elements are taken into consideration: memory and the power of expression. The other capabilities of a human being such as judgement, creativity, sensibility and qualities of leadership are left outside the purview of the traditional examinations. This is not to argue that the examination procedure should have extended scope and range to cover the testing of other qualities as well. No human ingenuity can, in fact, invent an examination system to be all-embracing for testing the human capabilities in totality. All that is suggested is that the examining body must recognise that the examination system is able to fulfil the limited objectives it is designed for. To that extent an examination system gains the status of an integral part of learning. How can the accomplishments in learning be evaluated on a uniform basis without examinations? If the objectives of examinations are enlarged, the mode and manner of examination would have to be changed. At the moment, the prevalent system of examina-

tions stands largely discredited, not perhaps because of any inherent deficiency but because of the comically inefficient way in which they are being conducted these days.

Why deficiencies? The examinations prove poor instruments of assessment of a learner's memory and the power of expression for the following reasons:

(a) The examinations are not properly and efficiently organised and administered. The examination centres are reduced to hot-beds of miscreants, and the atmosphere is least conducive to any academic work by the large majority of examinees. Even invigilators find it impossible to discharge honestly their duties and responsibilities. It may be a little uncharitable to blame wholly the students for this. It is on record that vice-chancellors unscrupulous invigilators, politicians and local hoodlums do not fight shy of making contribution to vitiate the atmosphere.

(b) The indifference of the students also makes it difficult to achieve the desired goals. Examinations are not viewed as yardsticks of proficiency but merely as necessary evils which have to be gone through only for getting a degree. The motive is to get through the examinations by hook or by crook. For sure, the students know that the degree alone would serve

them as a passport for a job. The students' attitude of apathy and indifference towards examinations would persist so long as the link of degrees and jobs continues.

(c) The manner in which the answer scripts are evaluated and the results declared unleash a wave of distrust and dissatisfaction of the examinees. This culminates in the demand for abolition of the examination system. In most cases there is no re-evaluation of the scripts. Only routine re-totalling is permitted. Questions are sometimes found tough, ambiguous or incorrect in some way. Answer scripts get lost and misplaced. Such lapses on the part of paper setters, examiners and officials responsible for the preparation and declaration of results cannot be brushed aside as absolutely baseless. But the frequency of such cases is so insignificant that it does not warrant any capitalization.

(d) The mushroom growth of universities and educational institutions is out of all proportions to the organisational and administrative apparatus available. Some universities in metropolitan cities (Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta) are bursting at the seams. To cope with the students' problems easily and quickly is a near-impossibility. The brunt of the simmering discontent in the student community falls on the examinations. Perhaps, the examination season is regarded as the most salubrious for the demonstration of their pent-up dissatisfaction.

(e) The inefficient staff (particularly the teachers) recruited on considerations of favouritism, nepotism and vested interest aggravate the complexity of the situation. The standards of both teaching and learning are of lower key. This also leads to indulgence in mal-practices and corruption.

(f) The academic community, it is argued, cannot, possibly, insulate itself from the deteriorating social climate in the country marked by corruption, inefficiency, lack of integrity and indifference. There is a general devaluation of the national and traditional values of life.

Reforms: The upshot of the foregoing discussion is that the examinations must stay. In fact, they should be inter-woven into the system of education and made its integral part. There is therefore no case for the abolition of the examination system as such. What remains controversial is its form. No simple model of examination system can be offered on a platter. Each of its variant has its good points alongside the bad ones.

There are two schools of thought. The revolutionary school, if we may say so, urges that the reform of the examinations is inextricably linked with the system of education and the latter should be patterned to suit the national needs—economic, political, social, cultural etc. The primary need is to re-structure the educational system and the examination system will automatically be taken care of. The new national policy on education (which is on the anvil and was featured earlier in these columns) envisages to make the examinations "powerful instruments of improving the teaching and learning processes including the content of courses and methods of teaching. Under the new policy statement, not more than three public examinations will be held till the end of under-graduate stage. These may be at the end of the 10th standard, 12th standard and the under-graduate stage. The new scheme suffers from two basic defects: first, but for a school or a district examination at the end of the elementary stage there would be no examination. This may virtually create an El

Dorado for the teachers and the taught. But it may create a bewildering multiplicity of standards of promotion of students from one to the other stage of education. If it provides a ladder for promotion without examination, will it not lower the standards of learning.

Various universities have tried other reforms: Some of them are indicated below:

(i) *Semester system:* Its basic objectives to have a cumulative and periodic record of students' work and to enable them to shed burden of work semester-wise stand utterly defeated. The syllabi are deemed as compartmentalised and the students fail to bear an imprint of a unified picture of the entire course of study. The objective of cutting the losses in failures is also not achieved by this system.

(ii) *Internal assessment:* The system of internal assessment as a complement to the external terminal examination has been criticised principally because it lends itself to a greater element of subjectivity. If the passing grade or marks are very low (say, 30 per cent) a candidate may be able to manoeuvre his internal assessment to qualify for the award of a degree—passport for a job.

(iii) *Grading system:* The University Grants Commission brochure "Examination Reform—a plan of action" says that students must be awarded grades and not marks at the examinations and assessments because the performance of students cannot be measured so accurately and so unambiguously as to be recorded in marks.

(iv) *Other reforms:* A change in the pattern of question paper such as multiple-choice or true-false patterns is recommended. This can serve a useful purpose only if the number of questions to be answered in the prescribed

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Pattern of industries in India

INDUSTRIAL Revolution is round the corner in India. Shall we be able to achieve it with the pattern of industries already built or do we need a new pattern? A study of the industrial pattern, old and new, is attempted here for the readers to debate this proposition.

—Editor

India has come to occupy the tenth position in the industrialized world and the third in respect of the technical personnel. India is thus on the threshold of an industrial revolution. Much of our achievement would depend on the industrial pattern that we build up.

The pride of place that we have achieved on the world industrial map is a matter of just three decades since the country launched upon planned development of the economy. The secret of this lies in the implementation of the industrial policy of 1956 (an amended version of the industrial policy resolution, 1948) which envisaged rapid industrialization with particular emphasis on the development of basic and heavy industries.

The policy assigned a key role to the State and laid firmly the foundations of mixed economy approach to achieve the objective set out before the nation, namely industrial revolution. The philosophy governing the industrialization of the country has been to widen the industrial base through the expansion of the public sector without undermining the prospects of the private sector to grow and develop. The rationale of this approach was to strike a golden mean between wholesale socialisation of the Russian model and pure *laissez faire* policy advocated by the capitalist school of thought.

The dominant status to which the public sector has been lifted is reflected in its increas-

ing share of the investment allocations for industries in each plan. The public sector industries have appropriated more and more resources in absolute, and also in proportionate, terms, while the private sector has to make do with less and less resources. In the fifth plan 62 per cent of the aggregate outlay for the industrial sector went to the public sector and only 38 per cent to the private sector. The public sector investment in absolute terms is now placed at Rs. 15,000 crore.

Investment pattern (Pre-1977): That the new industrial policy announced in 1956 marked a complete break-away from the pre-Independence policy is a tautology. The industrial pattern in India on the eve of planning was marked by low capital intensity, less development of medium-sized industries and imbalance between consumer goods and capital goods industries.

Under the new dispensation, as stated earlier, the public sector came in a big way to shift the tempo in favour of the capital-intensive industries. High priority was accorded to industries like steel, non-ferrous metals, fertilizers, mineral oils, coal and machine building. The second five-year plan, which truly marked the beginning of the change, accorded the highest priority to the expansion of the iron and steel industry because it was regarded as an unexceptionable "determinant of the tempo of progress of the

economy as a whole". Secondly, India possesses natural endowments to produce iron and steel products and has, as such, comparative cost advantage to advance industries based on iron and steel inputs. Heavy engineering industries and machine building were, consequently, given weightage in the scale of priorities.

In the private sector the investment has been mainly on consumer goods industries like cement, sugar, paper, textiles, industrial machinery, transport equipment, light engineering industries, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, rubber goods, glass and ceramics. The impressive expansion of the frontiers of the private sector has been made possible by the substantial contribution made by the public sector investment "both directly, by the provision of the necessary overheads, and, indirectly, by stimulating demand and so creating an atmosphere favourable to industrial growth".

The rationale for this investment pattern, to quote from third plan report, was "to lay the foundation for further rapid industrialization over the next 15 years (1966-81), if the long-term objectives in regard to the national income and employment are to be achieved".

It may also be added that the village and small scale industries had not been neglected, as alleged. In fact, they received due attention from the very

beginning of the planning era. The third five-year plan recognised forthrightly that this sector had made a "significant contribution" in the first decade of planning. The sixth five-year draft plan, 1978-83, however, assesses that its contribution to the industrial production declined in the fifth plan period.

The village and small-scale industries, in contrast with the large-scale sector, are labour-intensive and are estimated to provide full-time employment to about 2.8 million persons, according to the current plan. They also impart a diversified character to the entire industrial sector. This only means that further concentration of economic power experienced during the first five plans would not aggravate.

Impact: What has been the impact of the industrial investment pattern on the growth of industrial sector? The industrial policy followed for the last two or three decades resulted in a rapid and almost continuous growth in industrial production upto the end of the third five-year plan. The growth rate in the first decade (1950-51 to 1960-61) averaged to 7 per cent per annum while in the next four years (1961-62 to 1964-65) it rose to 9 per cent a year. The following decade, 1965-75, witnessed a lower growth rate of not more than 4 per cent per annum. During 1974-75 to 1977-78, the annual growth rate averaged to 6 per cent. The fluctuations in the industrial growth trends are traceable to the trends in total and public sector investments during the corresponding periods. The current plan says: "The most sensitive of the various components of industrial production to investment rates is the capital goods sector and the least the consumer goods sector. Since the tempo of investment in the capital goods sector in the first de-

cade and a half of the planning era has been increasing, industrial production registered a "rapid and almost continuous growth". The growth trend showed a decline as the investment fell.

Diversification of exports and the growing import substitution are other important effects of the investment pattern in the industrial sector. The change in the composition of exports involving engineering goods yielded foreign exchange earnings of a sizable order (Rs. 600 crore). Considerable growth was also recorded by other goods like chemicals, apparel, handicrafts and so on. Forty per cent of the increase in production during 1973-74 to 1976-77 is accounted for by the expansion and diversification of exports. Import substitution has contributed in two ways: (i) by saving the foreign exchange which was expended in imports of capital goods, consumer goods, raw materials etc.; (ii) by utilizing optimally the indigenous resources.

The pattern of industries followed before the current plan suffered from one great weakness. And that is in regard to slow employment generation.

New Pattern: The draft plan, 1978-83, envisages an average industrial growth rate of 7 per cent during the plan period, as against the record growth rate of 10 per cent registered in 1976-77. The growth rate of 7 per cent is proposed to be achieved not so much by a step-up in investment in the capital goods sector as in the earlier plans, but by making investment in "employment-intensive activities like agriculture, irrigation, infra-structure like power and roads and minimum needs programme like water supply, health, primary education and housing." As the argument of the plan goes this investment will stimulate demand of capital, mass con-

sumer and intermediate goods. The strategy to increase industrial production does not emphasize capacity creation but capacity utilization.

If the pronouncements of the new party leaders in and outside the official machinery are any guide, the large scale capital intensive industries will not have the same status as they had before 1977. Thus, a big shift in the industrial pattern is envisaged. Not the large but the small industry sector will now have the heyday. As the plan document says: "While there will be a step-up in the public sector outlay on industries and minerals in absolute terms, its share of the public sector outlay will have to come down". The share of the large and medium industries as a proportion of the total public sector outlay will fall from 25 per cent to 19 per cent. The increase in investment in the cottage, village and small industry sector will be nearly 300 per cent. The small industry sector will be operating under a "protective" umbrella provided by the statutory reservation of 800 items for this sector. This will obviate the necessity of choosing sophisticated technology which led to high cost products. Labour-intensive techniques would reduce the product cost.

Further investment in export industries will also be reduced because only such goods will be exposed to the international competition as are surplus in the domestic market.

Conclusion: The new industrial pattern is expected to contribute 7 per cent annually to the industrial production and also bring about a better balance in the industrial structure. It is also expected to increase employment potential, which is the crux of the plan. A big lacuna in the pre-1977 industrial pattern will be removed.

Youth Power in Modern India

India has an enormous youth power which is going waste. It is indeed problem No. 1. What precisely is the significance of this problem; what are the hurdles and what remedial measures may be adopted. These issues are discussed here.

—Editor

Plato wrote about two thousand years ago: "What is happening to our young people? They disrespect their elders. They ignore the laws. They riot in the streets inflamed by wild notions. Their morals are decaying. What is to become of them?" As if anticipating the present age, the great philosopher made this prophetic utterance. Or one might say that the youth of the Platonic days were no better than those of today. Be that as it may, the problems of the youth have exercised the minds of philosophers and reformers in every age. As far back as 1925, Mahatma Gandhi wrote in the *Harizan*: "Youngmen, claiming to be the fathers of to-morrow, should be the salt of the nation. My hope lies in the youth of the country. They must realise that nothing but a rigorously disciplined life will save them and the country from utter ruin".

These words have far more import today than they had half a century before. But then there are problems that baffle one's mind.

The problem: If the people in the 15-35 age group constitute the youth, we had about 220 million strong youth power as on March 1, 1979, according to the demographic projections of the draft fifth five-year plan. In a country like India whose population is growing, the youth population abounds. As such, about one-third of our total population consists of young men and women. They are the

most valuable asset of the country and a liability, too.

Rashtrapati Neelam Sanjiva Reddy observed at a recent Commonwealth conference, "the youth could be an asset to society if they were properly understood, channelled and appreciated by it". He laid the blame for the problems connected with the youth squarely on the society. The question of understanding and appreciating them pre-supposes that the problems have been precisely identified. Every young man or woman, in fact, constitutes a unique problem in himself or herself. Thus, India has millions and millions of problems facing it. Yet, on a macro-level basis some common problems may be identified. They are: the problem of poverty, unemployment, education, health care etc. In short, the youth must find a niche in life. For an ambitious youth (and their number is not small), the fulfilment of aspirations is no easy task. It is even impossible in some cases. More so, as the mass media and technological advances proliferate the ambitions of the young. It follows as a corollary that in the advanced societies where mass media and technology are highly developed and the youth ambitious, the challenges posed must be bigger than those before the developing nations. It also means that the problems of the youth are a world-wide phenomena and not confined to India alone. Their nature and intensity may, however, differ. In

the poor regions, for instance, the problem of the youth is connected with the fundamental problem of regional development. That youth can (and should) become the builders of modern India is no platitude.

The current plan envisages participation and active involvement of the youth in the development of the countryside.

Youth Policy: If the future belongs to the youth, it becomes obligatory to have a youth policy. The policy must be of the youth, for the youth and by the youth. The Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr Shridath Ramphal, is credited with the view that the youth policy must ensure that the voices of the young were heard in the corridors of power where youth policy was made. *Prima facie*, it is a healthy approach. But, in practice, it has created new and knotty problems. By conceding the students' charter of demands including their representation on the academic bodies of the Universities, formation of students' unions and participation in the decision-making processes in the administrative hierarchy have only hampered smooth functioning. The universities throughout Uttar Pradesh, for example, are in turmoil. Not one of the 17 central and State universities in the country's largest State have been able to hold their examinations on schedule. The Law department of Lucknow is two years behind schedule. Violence is rampant

and students have been arrested in thousands. Gang warfare on the campus has assumed "apocalyptic proportions". Very recently, there has been mass copying in Meerut University and the university authorities have declared re-examination in 23 out of 53 centres of examination. In fact, there are persons who should never have been in the Indian universities. With such grim scenario of student discipline on campuses, is there a case for adopting soft options for the students and the young who have gone berserk?

The sociologists, educationists and social reformers attribute the growing indiscipline and anti-social activities to the erosion of the old values of life and the vacuum left unfilled. Some constructive and creative activities like National Cadet Corps, National Social Service and adult/non-formal education have been undertaken in the past. It is claimed that NCC inculcates national discipline among the youth—school children and the collegiates. The NCC cadets serve as the second line of defence during the war. During the Chinese border incursions and the Pakistan's aggression on India, the Indian youth, especially the NCC cadets, gave succour to the people. The question is why NCC training is not made compulsory for the entire youth community, if it is so useful? Maybe, because the so-called military discipline is actually of a superficial character. Or, perhaps, we are very allergic to any sort of compulsion whatever the dividend that accrues from it.

The NSS, a recent complement to NCC, has a different orientation. Its principal objective is to channelize the energies and time resources of the youngsters for social reconstruction. Here again, the appeal is to the latent urges of the youth to serve the interests of the nation. It is an organiza-

tion in the colleges and its membership is open to the alumni of the institution on a purely voluntary basis. The response of the student community may, by and large, be positive but it can hardly be considered commensurate to the national needs. NCC training camps combine weapon training with a smattering of other activities such as construction of village roads, slum clearance etc. NSS lays emphasis on providing social amenities including non-formal education to the illiterate millions. As Mahatma Gandhi said: "Mass illiteracy is India's sin and must be liquidated. The youth can play the most vital role in the elimination of illiteracy. They should go to the villages to remove the darkness of ignorance". This ideal of the Father of the Nation is worthy of emulation by the youth, in general, and the NSS volunteers, in particular. The literacy campaign has to be a continuing process, and calls for dedication and a spirit of social service which is conspicuous by its absence. Tinkering with it or half-hearted approach can only lead to frustration.

India has launched the Herculean task of socio-economic transformation through planned development. This opens out ever expanding and vast avenues for the youth. Public involvement in health, family welfare and minimum needs programmes has been stressed in the plan documents. The young farmers, students and entrepreneurs can play a positive role.

The youth can take upon themselves non-plan programmes and spearhead drives against certain social evils like hoarding, the dowry system, slum clearance, prohibition etc. To eradicate these social evils a commitment and attitudinal change are imperative. The youth can make a big contribu-

Hurdles: The first great impediment to fuller and optimum utilization of the potentialities of the youth power is the inability of the national leadership to give recognition and direction to the vast and growing youth power. It is only very recently that the youth have begun to assert themselves in an organised fashion. In the political sector, separate youth wings have been organised. We have the Youth Congress, the Yuva Janata and so on. But unfortunately these organisations have conducted themselves not as autonomous decision-making units but as appendages of the parent political party. Imbued with the political ideology, the parent organizations deploy them for promoting their political ends. The political engagements are too few to keep them fully occupied. Their surplus energy spills over to unproductive pursuits, violence or rioting for which any excuse is good enough.

The waste of the youth power is also due to the indifference and apathy with which the socio-economic programmes are treated by those responsible for their implementation.

Our society is in a state of transition from serfdom to freedom. With the erosion of the old values, the generation gap is widening. This leads to frustration and rampage.

Worse still is the social inertia. The spirit of individualism and self-centredness leaves the undesirable elements to have their own waywardness. Scandalous activities are indulged in unmindful of the consequences and since there is no check on them they have a mushroom growth.

Remedies: No simple recipe can be prescribed for the cure of the social maladies. The multi-pronged attack may include the inter-weaving of the
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ECONOMIC SCENE

- **Oil Prices Zoom**
- **Rural Unemployment Remedies**
- **District Industries Centres**
- **Commodity Price Stabilisation Fund**

Oil Prices Zoom

Q. Discuss the economics of the recent oil price hike.

Ans. The recent Geneva conference of the 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) took some important decisions. The salient among them are:

1. The base price of oil will be jacked up by over 9 per cent from April 1, 1979 instead of from October next as originally planned. The hike in oil prices has thus been advanced by six months. This means that the price of crude and petroleum products will rise by \$ 12.20 per barrel to \$ 14.54 as from April 1.

2. The OPEC will have the discretion to impose on what-the-market-bears principle a surcharge not exceeding \$ 4 a barrel on light high quality crude. Inclusive of the maximum authorized surcharge, the actual oil price can increase to a whopping level of \$ 18.54 per barrel.

Economic Rationale: The dramatic OPEC decisions have the same old economic rationality to conserve the exhaustible natural resources. Actually, it is yet another golden opportunity to enrich the oil-rich nations. The un-diminished demand for crude and the petroleum products, both in the developed as well as the developing world, compounded with

the shortage in the market supplies, estimated at 400 million barrels, in the wake of the 70-day shut-down in Iran—a leading OPEC-member—provided a good potential market.

Viewed from the standpoint of the oil exporting countries, there will be a spurt in their gross national product. If the incremental dose of foreign exchange resources (estimated at more than 15 billion dollar) were re-cycled, the OPEC will have an unprecedented rise in their standards of living. They will also be able to force the pace of their economic development as also of other third world nations which need financial assistance in the wake of the price hike.

(i) The imports may be dearer if the industrialised world—the biggest oil consumers—suffer inflationary pressures as the oil costs zoom.

(ii) Perspectively, OPEC may be heading forward for a severe energy crisis with the rapid depletion of oil resources. The Arabs may have to change from oil exporting to solar energy importing countries.

What will be the impact of the price hike on oil importing countries?

(a) As consumers of crude the advanced nations will be confronted with cost-push inflation unless they slash down their

crude demand. A double digit inflation is imminent, according to some. This may have a chain reaction and a global impact. The worst sufferers may be the developing nations, including India.

(b) To the world import bill, the price hike will add an estimated \$ 23 billion a year and to the European Economic Community an extra burden of \$ 7 billion per annum. The balance of payment situation of many a rich country will be distorted, notably of U.S.A. and Japan which are bulk consumers of oil. A global recession cannot be ruled out altogether. The developing nations would suffer a severe set-back. India will have to bear an additional burden of Rs. 500 crore as against Rs. 350 crore initially estimated.

(c) This may give rise to socio-political upheavals in advanced countries and their fallout may affect the less developed nations like ours.

Rural Unemployment Remedies

Q. Suggest measures for meeting the growing unemployment menace in rural areas.

Ans. Prime Minister Morarji Desai has re-iterated *ad nauseum* his party's pledge to achieve full employment within a decade of its coming into power. It is a laudable objective. But it remains as elusive

an objective as any. The Mathew committee on National Employment Service has said that "full employment policy should aim at filling all stomachs and not merely keeping all hands busy". That is, the work provided to idle hands must be adequately remunerative to meet the worker's basic needs. The committee has, in a way, added a new dimension to the Janata party's goal of full employment.

Turning to the thorny problem of rural unemployment, where 75 per cent of the 20.6 million man-days a year occur, the committee has made out the following main points:

(i) A net-work of rural employment block-level bureaux should be set up for the dissemination of occupational information giving details about the availability of the labour force in the market, rural as well as urban; the nature of seasonal and off-season occupations; the training and re-training facilities available.

(ii) The bureaux should also provide employment assistance to local job-seekers.

(iii) The existing 189 bureaux should be strengthened and re-vitalised.

(iv) Productive work should be organised for the unemployed who stay in the rural areas and are available to fill the vacancies. The committee holds this as a very important task for the bureaux because under modern agriculture less than 10 per cent of the available labour force is required to produce food and industrial raw materials for the country. The surplus labour stays in the villages and must be absorbed in productive work created by the bureaux. The committee does not advocate withdrawal of the unoccupied workers to other areas.

(v) Qualitative insight into the attitudes of the unemployed should be provided so as to

analyse the cultural inhibitions to employment. The committee believes that climatic and socio-cultural factors cause habits of laziness, fatalism, cynicism, indifference or false dignity. The Block Development Officers can assist in dealing with such inhibitions to hard work.

(vi) The bureaux can also encourage self-employment in agro-based industries.

District Industries Centres

Q. "District industries centres are just part of a populist exercise rather than for rendering real service to rural industries".
Comment.

Ans. District Industries Centres (DICs), the brain-child of the Union industries minister, Mr George Fernandes, form an integral part of the national industrial policy announced by him in December 1977. Recently, he claimed that 144 DICs had been established. The Centres sanctioned and scheduled to be set up by December 1978 were 246. According to him, 47,500 entrepreneurs had been identified for being benefited, project profiles had been prepared and 33,500 units established including 11,500 units in the small scale industry sector. Some of these units had been provided financial assistance, cash subsidy, raw materials, and technological, managerial and marketing facilities. The scheme which had been introduced with much fanfare about a year ago has had, according to some critics, a "tardy and even casual implementation", even though some States like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar have registered encouraging progress.

DICs had as their principal objective of providing under one roof the various services required by entrepreneurs such as preparation of project profiles, land, water and power, provision of raw materials and

machinery, credit etc. The entrepreneurs had thus not to go from pillar to post.

It may be recalled that the Small Scale Industries Board had recommended "obligatory adoption" of DIC by large units both in the public and the private sectors. This recommendation has the obvious danger of the units established under the DICs being reduced to mere "ancillaries" of the 'big brothers'. The Board also called upon the government to waive or reduce the Central sales tax charged at present even on goods in transit.

A crucial question that remains unanswered is whether each of the 460 districts in the country requires one such Centre. In some States a beginning is yet to be made. Are not DICs duplicating the work done by similar organisations or agencies already existing?

The performance index of DICs should not be merely the industrial units established but the employment potential created, the output and the growth of the village economy, in general. From these points of view, it is rather premature to pass any judgement on DICs.

Commodity Price Stabilization Fund

Q. Write a short note on the international commodity price stabilisation fund recently agreed upon between the developed and the developing nations.

Ans. For long UNCTAD has been deliberating on the desirability and necessity of commodity price stabilisation of the ten "core" commodities—cocoa, sugar, rubber, tin etc.—exported by the developing nations to the developed ones. Though the principle of the fund had been accepted by the industrialised nations in 1976, they rejected a capital structure based

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Rural Development : the New Phase

The real India lives in its villages, and Mahatma Gandhi, like many others, frequently warned that "if the villages perish, India will perish." Rural development was the basic theme of the Congress Government's "Gharibi Hatao" campaign; rural development is also among the foremost national slogans of the Janata Government. Countless schemes and numerous agencies have been set up for transforming the village and the life of the villager and for providing the masses with the basic amenities they have lacked for centuries. In fact, the entire policy of the Janata Government is distinctly rural oriented; substantial grants are earmarked for ensuring progress of the villages; financial and other concessions are announced from time to time, in the annual Budgets and on other occasions, to provide incentives for rural growth. The highest priority to rural development is writ large over almost every important decision the Government takes. After all, the vast majority of our legislators, both in Parliament and in the legislatures of the country's 22 States, belong to the rural areas, and it is just as well that they pay full attention to their masters—the vast rural electorate.

No rational person will question the basic wisdom of focusing attention on the village and the villager. The needs of the massive majority of the population (about three-fourths of the total) have indeed to be attended to, even if in the process the progress of the towns and of

townsmen is slowed down. But the tragedy of the Indian situation is that while the rulers go out of their way to favour the villager and set apart large chunks of public money for the development of the countryside, the net gain to the common villager and to the countryside as a whole has been—and continues to be—totally disproportionate to the funds channelled for the purpose. Rural development agencies are there, of course, and the requisite funds are also there—plenty of them—but there are so many leakages and so much waste in this field that impartial observers of the scene wonder where all the money goes, and also whether, at this rate, it will ever be possible to ensure development of the villages.

It is true that the task of rural development is a massive one and is also very complicated. For centuries the villagers have been steeped in poverty and also in ignorance. The process of enhancing their purchasing power has begun; about that there need be no doubt. The process of enlightenment and of education has also begun. But that is about all that can be said in favour of the Government's efforts to date. A symptom of the utter lack of achievement and, consequently, of the misdirection of both national and foreign funds set apart for rural development, is the occasional admission that most of the benefits of the ambitious five-year Plans have not gone to the people for whom they were intended and that the real beneficiaries have been the better-off

classes who did not require official attention and patronage but who managed to corner the benefits all the same.

Even the loans advanced by the rural banks have gone mostly to better-placed farmers. The small and the marginal farmer, the landless labourer, the village artisan and other poor needy people have stayed where they were. They have, in fact, become fatalistic, believing in their "kismet" and resigning themselves to their fate in the belief that their fate is ordained by the gods and that the good things of life are meant for the blessed people with whom the angels are pleased. Such frustration and such a fatalistic philosophy discourage individual initiative and leave the field open for exploiters in the shape of medium and big landowners, the money-lenders and other influential people.

The bank branches in rural areas, functioning in their hundreds with the objective of ousting the traditional money-lender from the rural scene and providing loans on easy terms to the needy villagers, have not achieved their purpose either. The percentage of rural bank branches to the total branches of the nationalised banks is 37.6 and that of semi-urban branches 26.3. The expansion of rural bank branches has indeed been remarkable and unprecedented, but their lending operations have not only fallen short of the credit-deposit ratio for the banking industry (because they have diverted deposits secured from rural areas to urban industrial

centres) but also have failed to satisfy the genuine credit needs of the poor villagers. The lending operations have benefited the comparatively well-off people who have used their influence and their capacity to provide adequate securities to bag the lion's share of the loans. As a result, tractor loans, power tiller loans, gohar gas plant loans, which constitute a good part of the banks' lending to agriculture, have been availed of only by the bigger farmers.

Again, at the instance of the Prime Minister, several banks and large industrial houses have "adopted" certain villages or groups of villages for development purposes. They have granted a few loans to some people and collected some deposits. Can this be described as rural development by any stretch of imagination? Before Independence, poet Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi set fine examples of voluntary efforts for rural development. The country's history has shown that rural development work done through official agencies has yielded very temporary results and have merely meant waste of time and effort. Mr Malcolm Darling, I.C.S., started the rural reconstruction movement in United Punjab decades ago. He sought to raise the standard of life of the rural masses. After Independence there have been several rural uplift programmes and agencies, such as the Community Development Programme, the National Extension Scheme, the Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Agency and a number of other organisations which started with much fanfare, with plenty of hope and liberal financial grants but achieved little.

But what is the net outcome? The common villager is where he was three decades ago. Gandhiji's aim was to make the villager self-reliant and develop

a sense of human dignity and to encourage self-help, simplicity and economy. Referring to the ideal village of his conception the Mahatma said: "My ideal village will contain intelligent human beings. They will not live in dirt and darkness as animals. Men and women will be free and able to hold their own against any one in the world. No one will be idle, no one will wallow in luxury." But Gandhiji's dream has remained a dream. On the contrary, certain habits have come to the fore which are far from healthy and which are contrary to the ideals which the Mahatma preached.

One such habit is that of extravagance and of spending more than is necessary, for instance, on social and religious ceremonies, simply because loans are available easily and the terms are also very easy, with the distinct possibility of getting them written off in due course. A recent report on rural loan prepared by the Indian Labour Bureau has disclosed that there has been a marked increase in loans obtained by villagers for household consumption, marriage and other ceremonial expenses; moreover, money-lenders continue to be the main source of loan operations, even though there are co-operatives, bank branches and other credit-giving agencies. Thus it is clear that villagers have started spending more on social and religious ceremonies and have not become economical in their habits.

A world conference on rural development has been planned and is scheduled to be held in Rome in July this year, but in all probability it will be just another occasion for high-sounding speeches and tall talk; very little impact is likely on rural welfare in Asia, Africa or Latin America. Nearly half the world's population lives in the villages of the Third World.

Most of the people in the Third world—about 800 million—are poor; what is worse, the number is mounting instead of decreasing. This in itself is a sorry reflection on all the rural reconstruction programmes and agencies working in the field.

Another tragic aspect of the rural construction programmes is that nearly 50 per cent of the foreign aid received by State Governments in India for rural development has remained unutilised for many years. This exposes the wide gap between the professions and practice of the country's leaders. The funds earmarked for rural development are indeed massive. The Union Budget for 1979-80, presented by Mr Charan Singh with an all-out emphasis on rural welfare even at the cost of urban development, provided, in all, a sum of Rs. 1,811 crores for rural development, including an outlay of Rs. 258 cores for accelerating the integrated rural development programmes in 2,000 blocks covered by the existing special programmes and the 300 additional blocks. The results of the effort remain to be seen.

Owing to the needless and wholly avoidable duplication of the official agencies working for rural development, there is much waste of money and of human resources. On January 25, 1979, in a message broadcast on the eve of Republic Day, President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy appealed to the people to desist from controversies and confrontations and bend their energies towards national goals of which the top most priority should be given to rural progress. But the politicians have still paid no heed to this advice. Amidst their murky politics they have little time for rural development.

Can Military Expenditure be Cut?

With military expenditure reaching massive proportions around the globe (the U.S.A. alone spends 123 billion dollars annually) the question is often asked why such wasteful investment is not being curbed even after all the conferences and parleys designed to promote peace. The proposition for discussion is: "Military expenditure can be cut without risking national defence."

Mr A: I, for one, feel amazed at the standpoint of those who assert that military expenditure should not, and cannot be reduced. The world spends over Rs. 1 lakh on defence every second. Have our leaders, statesmen and all the world's pacifists become so powerless and ineffective that they cannot ensure the dawn of common sense among the various governments and among military chiefs whose voice matters on questions such as the purchase and acquisition of more arms and ammunition in the belief that in this way alone can they safeguard the integrity and safety of their country? I see no reason why military expenditure cannot be cut without risking national defence. It is obvious that if the various nations agree to maintain the strength of their military forces in a certain proportion fixed according to the size and importance of the country, they can stop the mad arms race which is proving suicidal and leads nowhere and benefits only the arms manufacturers of the affluent nations such as the U.S.A. It is all a vicious circle, with each country, even of the Third World which is dominated by poor, developing or under-developed countries, trying to outbid the other as if their sole chance of survival is by spending as much as they can on military equipment which they may never need and which becomes mere junk after a few years and has, consequently, to be dis-

posed of somehow. The arms manufacturers make it a point to encourage large-scale arms purchases by the Third World by deliberately creating a fear psychosis and a feeling of insecurity in certain sensitive areas by warning the vulnerable countries against imaginary dangers and the urgency of keeping up with the neighbours lest they are caught napping while their rivals (and which country in the world has no rivals?) are improving their military capabilities. Swollen armaments and ever-increasing military expenditure have become a modern status symbol, a thing of national pride. Why can't all this lunacy be checked? What is the use of all the education that we receive and all the enlightenment we boast of if, simultaneously, we indulge in such great follies?

Mr B: I am afraid my friend, Mr A, talks in idealistic terms and ignores the harsh realities of today. When he argues that the expenditure on arms and armies can be cut, he forgets that such a feat can be brought about only in an idealistic world where there are no military threats of any kind, where each country is fully satisfied with the territory it possesses and where there are no ambitions and constantly-fed desires for expansion of national glory through conquest and domination of weak neighbours and where everyone wishes to live in peace and is governed only

with honest intentions. The world, unfortunately, is far from honest and truthful; there are rivalries, frictions, jealousies and struggles for domination. There are racial conflicts and economic disparities which cause aggression; and there are also idealistic and political philosophies which seek to boost the national ego and demand actions that enhance national prestige. Just as individuals in a country constantly seek to acquire more riches and more worldly possessions, similarly nations seek to acquire a better international image. This is sought to be achieved by becoming "powerful", and power, as Mao Tse-tung said, flows through the barrel of a gun, which means that every country should acquire more and more arms, even at the cost of social welfare and constructive schemes, such as housing for the masses, education for the illiterate and food for the hungry. Since each nation's defensive measures are interpreted by suspicious neighbours as preparations for aggression—and at times rightly—it is the basic duty of each Government to ensure national safety by arming the country to the maximum limit possible. Any nation that closes its eyes to the realities and lives in a world of ideology and make-believe has to suffer in the end. India, for example, learnt a bitter lesson in 1962 when China, taking full advantage of our lack of military preparations and our tradi-

tional complacency, under the umbrella of Panch Sheel and peaceful co-existence, launched an attack and seized thousands of miles of our land and still sits tight over it, calling the seized territory its own and adopting postures which imply that negotiations should start on "other things" and not on settled facts. If India had been fully prepared, it would not have lost about 50,000 sq miles of its territory to China. India's attitude has been aptly compared to that of the pigeon who closes its eyes in the belief that no one sees it and is safe but it is soon eaten up by wily, alert and hungry cats.

Mr C: I would rather support the contentions put forth by my friend Mr A. Why should we become so desperate and so credulous as to believe that all or most of our neighbours are hostile to us and ever on the prowl to attack us and seize our territory? Obviously, if all the nations come to an agreement that they would maintain their present military strength and not go on increasing it, a balance can be struck. There can be no denying the fact that there have been in human history—and there continue to be—certain treaties of peace and of limitations on armaments which have done good to humanity as a whole, apart, of course, from the nations directly concerned—the signatories to such pacts. SALT-I is one example; the treaty may not have been a cent per cent success, but it has certainly led to a slowing down of the feverish arms race. And now SALT-II is about to be concluded between the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union, despite all the suspicions and the barrage of accusations and counter accusations by the Big Powers. It is also a fallacy that the armaments industry has to be kept going in the national interest of a particular country. In the U.S.A.,

which is one of the largest manufacturers of armaments, the percentage of people engaged in the highly dangerous but very prosperous industry is just 3 per cent of all available jobs. The arms industry and the military outlays also cause a double damage: the non-productive nature of the military production narrows consumption and takes away from the productive sphere of the economy not only capital manpower materials, equipment, transport, etc., but also the possibilities for a wider application of productive labour. To quote one example; it has been calculated that one billion dollars invested in the military industries guarantees 45,800 jobs. The same amount of money spent on municipal needs and social welfare projects would provide work to 98,000 people. In other words, every billion dollars spent on armaments "eats up" about 52,000 job opportunities in civil life. Moreover, economists have found that unemployment in countries having a high level of military production, strange as it may seem, is much higher than in those with a lower level. Thus even the so-called economic "substantiations" do not provide a justification for higher military expenditure. Why should we resign ourselves to the fate outlined by war-mongers and refuse to listen to peace-makers and the real well-wishers of humanity.

Mr D: I am afraid that, like Mr A, his supporter, Mr C, has also got lost in a world of theory and make-believe which of course does not exist. How can military expenditure be cut when all round us we see small and weak nations being attacked by strong neighbours directly or by proxy? This is particularly so in Asia, the Middle East and Africa. Those who quote the NATO agreement to show that schedules of disarmament are possible, and those who

believe that SALT-I slowed down the arms race, are deluding themselves. NATO, in fact, led to the WARSAW Pact and a regular competition in matching each other's military potential. SALT-I was a total failure in checking the manufacture of arms. Each Power has throughout been trying to outbid the other and the agreements to limit arms manufacture to certain levels are a downright farce. Besides, armaments are not a cause but a symptom of the causes that lead to wars and conflicts. Unless we tackle the basic causes of the conflicts, it is futile to expect a reduction in the arms expenditure incurred by various nations. Moreover, qualitative comparisons cannot be made; half a dozen nuclear bombs are enough to destroy hundreds of old-type conventional armaments. So there can be no comparisons and no effective agreements to cut down military expenditure. We should not forget that even after long years of Geneva discussions on armaments, no agreement has been possible and the whole exercise has been a waste of time and energy. So on what basis do Mr A and Mr C ask for an international accord to cut the expenditure on arms when all previous attempts in this direction have utterly failed and humanity has perforce reconciled itself to the realities of massive arms and military outlays? In fact, the lesson of the various wars fought in the course of history is that unless we keep our army and our armaments up to date, we are risking our integrity and security, and which Government would like to be called traitors to the national cause? In order to play safe, each Government earmarks a tidy sum for military purposes and the higher the amount the more the credit it claims. Obviously, military expenditure cannot be reduced in such dismal circumstances.

How to Think Straight

The trouble with most people is that they think with their hopes or fears or wishes rather than with their minds.

—WALTER DURANTY

What is straight thinking?

Straight thinking means logical thinking. "Logic" itself, according to M.R. Cohen and Ernest Nagel is defined thus: "Logic is correct reasoning. By logic we can find out what follows if we accept a given statement as true." According to Stuart Chase, "Logic is the process of drawing a conclusion from one or more statements or propositions, called premises." It is correct thinking. Here are two examples of what is not correct thinking:

"Your religion is different from mine", is a fact.

"Therefore, you are no good", is an illogical conclusion.

Another instance of illogical conclusion or deduction is the story of the Soviet educator, Mistschurin who was discussing insects at Moscow University. "I have here a flea on my right hand" said he to the students. "I now order it to jump over to my left hand. The flea obeys, as you see. Now I repeat the experiment, and the flea obeys again. Now I remove the legs of the flea and order it to jump. But it does not. Therefore, gentlemen, we have scientific proof that a flea whose legs are removed becomes deaf."

Straight thinking occurs when *because* follows and makes sense. It does not occur when it does not follow and does not make sense.

Here is a statement supported by four *because*s, all wrong:

The earth is flat. Why?
Because it looks flat.

Because people would fall off the underside if it were a ball.

Because the gods say it is.

Because my father told me so.

Here is an instance of a correct *because* given by Cohen:

"The number of inhabitants in New York City is greater than the number of hairs on the head of any inhabitant."

How come?

Because tests have demonstrated that the limit of hairs on any human head is five million. There are eight million people in New York City. Therefore, there are more people than hairs on any head.

Rules for straight thinking

There are certain rules which can guide us in thinking straight *i.e.*, thinking reasonably and logically. These are as follows:

In the process of thinking apply the scientific method. Scientific method means common sense or the objective view. "It consists in putting two and two together regardless of one's wishes and prejudices." "A scientist", says Dr Fink "always checks and double-checks his maps to make sure that wishful thinking or prejudice or faulty observation has not played him false. *Because* he does this, he doesn't lose his way."

In the application of the scientific method three steps have been suggested:

(1) Get together the facts bearing on your question.

(2) Develop a theory or hypothesis to explain the facts.

(3) Arrange experiments to verify the hypothesis. Maintain a healthy scepticism throughout, and be ready to say "I was wrong."

"Science", says T.H. Huxley, "is simply common sense at its best—that is, rigidly accurate in observation and merciless to folly in logic." Instead of merely thinking about falling bodies, Galileo went out and observed some. When his children lost their tempers in a political discussion Lord Salisbury said to them: "Let's try to think this out chemically." By this he meant: "Let's try to regard human substances as we regard chemical ones in an experiment. Do not attempt to foresee its results, but put the chemicals in the retort, heat them and observe their reaction. If it proves contrary to our doctrine we will abandon our doctrine."

Go to facts

Go straight to facts. Base your conclusion on actual observed facts. Make your wishes conform to themselves to facts, don't try to make facts harmonize with your wishes. Parlov described facts as the air of scientists "without them they can never fly." This is equally true of straight thinking.

Blinking facts because they are unpalatable or because they appear ugly to our sentimental vanity is fatal to straight thinking and, therefore, to success in life.

Avoid Rationalization

Straight thinkers avoid rationalization, that is finding logical reasons for what one

wants to do or going to do any way. It is used to bolster one's hopes, desires or prejudices. D.S. Robinson quotes the "philosophy of an airman" as a lively instance of rationalization. An airman has really nothing to worry, for look:

If you fly, well there is nothing to worry about. If you go into a spin, then one of the two things can happen: either you crash or you don't. If you don't crash, there is nothing to worry about. If you crash, one of two things can happen: either you hurt yourself or you are not hurt. If you are not hurt, there is nothing to worry about. If you are badly hurt, one of two things can happen: either you recover or you don't. If you recover, there is nothing to worry about. If you don't recover, you can't worry! But there is a catch in it. If you don't recover and are crippled for life, there is plenty to worry about.

The price of rationalization is self-deception. As a result we are less likely to profit from our errors. When used to an extreme degree it may lead to the development of false beliefs or delusions which are maintained in spite of contradictory objective evidence.

Don't take anything for granted. Avoid thinking dogmatically "That one man or ten thousand or ten million men find a dogma acceptable does not argue for its soundness." (D.S. Jordon)

Beware of proverbs

Proverbs must be taken with a pinch of salt in straight thinking. There are many pairs of proverbs contradicting one another.

Examples are:

1. Look before you leap.
He who hesitates is lost.
2. Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Many hands make light work.

3. Fine feathers make fine birds.

Clothes do not make the man.

4. Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Out of sight out of mind.

Many proverbs, like "No body works unless he has to" and "Spare the rod and spoil the child" contradict modern knowledge. Some are blatantly cynical, like "Marriage is lottery". Some, like "Every cloud has a silver lining" is too consolatory. Other like "Call no man happy till he is dead" is too crudely defeatist.

As a writer says, "Proverbs and adages, like old shoes, are comfortable and easy. They help keep the conversation going and sometimes reflect real wisdom. But they should never be accepted in lieu of solid proof."

Think in terms of probabilities

Straight thinkers think in terms of probabilities rather than absolutes. They don't take a rigid 100 per cent position on a given problem. Instead of saying, "Russia is going to collapse within six months", rather say, "If the report on the crisis in Russian agriculture are true, it looks as though the Kremlin would have to change its foreign policy." Cocksurenness militates against straight thinking. We recall Shakespeare's lines in "The Merchant of Venice":

..... I am Sir Oracle
And when ope my mouth
let no dog bark!

He takes, evidently, an absurd position.

Think in terms of relativity

Einstein's demonstration has a place in straight thinking. Here is an illustration showing the relativity of 'hot' and 'cold'! Put very cold water in one pail, very hot in another, tepid in the

third. Dip your right hand for a moment in the hot water, then in tepid. How does it feel? Cold! Now hold your left hand first in the cold water and then in the tepid. How does it feel? Hot! The same pail of water can produce sensations either 'hot' or 'cold' depending on where your hand has last been. It is the relation that counts rather than absolute property of 'coldness' or 'hotness'.

Process Thinking

Straight thinking is process thinking, no linear thinking. A given effect—whether tummy-ache or a revolution—may be the result of many causes and in turn produce still further effects. Don't look for a single cause for campus unrest or juvenile delinquency; various processes are at work and remedies must be sought accordingly. Here are some simplistic statements:

Lack of money is the root of all evil. (G.B. Shaw)

His sacred Majesty, Chance decides every thing. (Voltaire)

Good government after all is a very simple thing. (W.G. Harding)

Don't think in terms of polar words

Polar words are directly opposite words—"words that stand at opposite poles." Examples are: good and bad, true and false, black and white. When one uses polar words, he tends to think in terms of one hundred per cent and an inflexible system of valuation. A mature person recognizes not only black and white, but an infinite number of shades of gray. He does not think only in absolutes for he has learned that there is both good and bad in all people and all things. One must qualify to oneself, every polar word with the phrase "to a point" or "in some degree". In his "All's Well that Ends Well", Shakespeare insightfully said:

The web of our life is of mingled yarn, good and ill together (iv iii 83)
 Substitute "It seems to me" for "It is"

Whatever a person knows is only a part and not all of what there is to know. He is, therefore, well advised to remember this and adopt the "It seems to me" approach. Oddly enough, it is the guy who knows everything who has the most to learn.

Remember also the motto of the great French sage-essayist, Montaigne: What do I know?

Logical fallacies

Finally it is vital to straight thinking to beware of logical fallacies. In each logical fallacy "the reason which follows the terms *because*, fails, under analysis to make sense." Either the facts are inadequate, or the logic is bad or both. The main logical fallacies are outlined below:

(1) *O v e r-generalization* : Jumping to conclusions from one or two cases. As O.W. Holmes (Jr) has it, "No generalization is wholly true not even this one." One swallow does not make a summer!

(2) *Getting personal*: Forsaking the issue to attack the character of its defender. In a British Court as the attorney for defence took the floor, his partner handed his note: "No case. Abuse the plaintiff's attorney".

(3) *Cause and effect*: Of event B comes after event A, then it is assumed to be the result of A. A lady breaks a mirror; and later in the day loses her purse. The broken mirror, she says, caused the loss.

(4) *False analogies*: This situation, it is argued, is exactly like that—but it isn't.

Example: There is no smoke without fire.

How does Winston Churchill propose to build three hundred thousand houses a year in his post-war housing programme, when it took him five years to build one brick wall at his country place. (Churchill built the wall with his own hands and hobby, but his housing programme was to be designed and financed by the British Government and built by thousands of craftsmen and labourers. There was no valid comparison.)

(5) *W i s e can be wrong*: Clinching an argument by an appeal to authority. *Examples* are: My grandpa said so. "It says so in the Bible."

(6) *F i g u r e s prove*: Often figures are misleading. Disraeli used to say, "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics." You should use statistics as a drunker uses a lamp-post—for support rather than illumination.

(7) *A r g u i n g in circles*: Using conclusion to prove itself.

Examples are: A has written several books on Ornithology because he is an authority. A is an authority on ornithology because he has written several books on it.

A fortune teller said to a client: "Your son will be famous if he lives long enough!"

"What will he be famous for?"

"For having lived so long!"

(8) *Black or white*: Forcing an issue with many aspects, into just two and thus ignoring important shades of grey.

The world does not consist of 'good guys' and 'bad guys'. Humanity cannot be divided into Aryan (higher race) and non-Aryan (lower race) as fanatical Hitler attempted to do.

Man, a logical animal

Man is a logical animal. The glory of man is his capacity to think logically. His supreme instrument is reason. When he causes to be logical, thoughts are reduced to confusion and gibberish; sound and fury signifying nothing.

Straight thinking is one of the essential traits of a sound personality. It is an indispensable quality of leadership. It makes for clear and logical exposition as well as balance of judgement. These are some of the qualities which the boards of interviewers for public services look for in the candidates. It also enables us to cope intelligently with problems of everyday living.

Straight thinking is an art. Some of its techniques have been outlined above to guide those who want to cultivate it. The game is surely, worth the candle.

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MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade examinations. Thoughts of certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

Marriage is not all bed and breakfast.

The rich man engages a cook, a butler, a launderer, a steward and so on; the poor man simply marries. Marriage for most people is simply an arrangement whereby our meals cooked well are served hot; the clothes washed well are pressed neat and our accounts maintained well guarantee against any defalcation. If marriage were nothing more we should be reverting to the middle ages when woman slaved for man and was thrashed and manacled for minor omissions. Marriage is no bribe to make a house-keeper think that she is a householder. Marriage is truly an understanding, an agreement, a partnership between two equals. It is an intellectual, emotional and spiritual comradeship. Two souls are indissolubly linked together, for rain or shine, for good or ill. They grow together without being aware of it. In fact one of the good things that come of a true marriage is that there is one face on which changes come without your seeing them; or rather there is one face which you can still see the same, through all the shadows which years have gathered upon it. It is this complete identification which marriage means. It is bond till eternity. A wit has put it beautifully "Marriage resembles a pair of shears, so joined that they cannot be separated; often moving in opposite directions yet always punishing any one who comes between

He that makes shoes goes barefoot himself.

It is one of the ironies, nay tyrannies of our economic order that the producer of wealth is not allowed any reasonable part of it. He feeds the other almost to the point of gluttony but himself virtually starves. The mill worker produces cloth of different colours and shades, fine and superfine, gorgeous and gaudy but himself goes about semi-naked. On the outskirts of big cities a chain of skyscrapers is coming up. At some distance from the site of construction the land is littered with huts and hovels where the labourers and brick-layers carry on their precarious existence. The sky-scrapers are completed and their owners get busy with interior decoration pressing fancy-carpet, blazing chandeliers, luxurious furniture and exotic paintings into service. At the same time the denizens of the huts are ordered to quit and fend for themselves as best they can. God, in His Infinite mercy gives them the sky as a roof, and nothing more. We may be all Adam's children but silk makes the difference. The irony extends even to the moral plane. Those who preached love and non-violence and practised it in thought, word and deed became the victims of violence. Statistics tell us that the top heart-specialists have died of heart failure.

Calamity is man's true touchstone.

When the waters are calm even the tiniest of boats can sail without any ado but when the storm rages only a tough ship and a tougher Captain can steer through the storm. It is trial that proves one thing weak and another strong. A house built on the sand is, in fair weather, just as good as it is built on a rock. A cobweb is as good as the mightiest cable when there is no strain on it. How many well-laced soldiers shiver in their boots at the sight of rolling tanks and mounted guns but the true soldier defies everything to death. When Gandhi was thrown out of his railway compartment by the haughty whites, hundreds of his Indian companions advised him to pocket it all but he refused to take it lying down. He regarded it as an affront to human dignity and started his crusade which ended up into a world-wide movement. When the Hindu rajahs had begun to kow-tow to the Moghul Emperor at Delhi, it was Guru Gobind Singh who went through the whole gamut of human suffering but held his head high. Privations only hardened his will to be free. Such men are the salt of the earth. Their heroism galvanizes communities and nations. It is about them that the poet says:

"Yet shall thy name, conspicuous and sublime

Stand in the spacious firmament of time,

.. (Contd. on page 718)

1. Corruption in India Today

In a play of Moliere there is a magistrate who every now and then shouts "Bring me my spectacles". Those who understand straightaway advise the petitioner or the suitor to pin a dollar-note to the petition. Equipped with these spectacles the magistrate has no difficulty in reading the petition and granting it however unreasonable it may be.

Corruption of a sort has existed in our country for quite a few centuries. Bribery was accepted as a legitimate political weapon in State-craft even in ancient times. Chanakya approved of it. The Moghul Kings, Akbar most of it, bought off several Rajput princes and undermined Rana Pratap's resistance. With the advent of the British bribery travelled to the grass-roots. The country became one administrative unit and the Patwari on the revenue side, the constable on the executive side and the piyada on the judicial side became the three pillars of this administration. Their salaries were deliberately kept very meagre so that they should supplement them with their "unofficial levies".

This state of affairs had gone on for about a hundred years and a few cells of the administrative frame were known to be corrupt. But with the out-

break of the second world war and the phenomenal rise in prices corruption invaded all cells. The pot must be kept boiling—that became the common plea. All classes of society began to wallow in this mud.

With independence came industrialization and the accumulation of money and the decay of the moral fibre. The entire machinery worked only with the grease of tainted money. There was plenty of income and some of it could be scattered so as to multiply ten-fold, twenty-fold. The fellow cast his bread in the waters so that it should come back buttered. A collusion began between business and bureaucracy. The purchase officers having their commission and pay-offs and the businessmen passing their base-metal as gold. If in the process the country suffered, it was nobody's concern. The dams leaked, the bridges collapsed, rotten wheat was stored in the godowns, standard medicines were supplied to the government hospitals—How! What monsters these mortals be! Nero fiddling while Rome is burning.

And in this nefarious game the latest to enter were the politicians. They saw their opportunity and plumped for it. The entire administrative machinery

was geared to one purpose—at first to fill the coffers of the party in power and then those of family. The man had to bring his offering and then all went merry as a marriage-bell. If the gold rust, what shall iron do? A new set of politicians took over two years ago. They are solemnly committed to the eradication of corruption. There is a talk of a Lok Pal but when will he start cleaning Augean Stables? The small fry, here or there is netted, but who will catch the whales and Leviathans? The common man is dazed. He has begun to accept corruption as he a v e n-ordained.

We in India today have made astounding progress in Industry, Science and Technology. We have created markets for our products in Far East, Middle East and even in the West. We are self-sufficient in several respects. But there is a crisis of character with us. Money is too much with us. It has destroyed our national and moral values. What we need is to be born afresh and born different. Gandhiji tried to hitch our spiritual waggon to the star but we killed him. In our craze for the yellow metal, we found him irrelevant. In our present mood, no wonder we shall kill him again should he care to return to us.

2. Generation Gap

Every old man complains of the growing depravity of the world, of the petulance and insolence of the rising generation.

There has always been an opposition, implicit or explicit between the old and the young. The old people having seen

more years pride themselves on their wisdom and experience and consider it their inalienable right to dictate to the young. They

forget that the world is a whole generation older and wiser than when the father was of his son's age. It is mere childishness to expect men to believe as their fathers did, that is, if they have any minds of their own.

If this opposition has existed in the past, it is more pronounced and more acute today. We are living in times of speed. Changes are taking place at breathless pace. The car model of 1977 is outmoded in 1979. This should be equally applicable to our ideas and notions. The old man failing to adjust himself to the rapidly changing environment pours his wrath on the new generation. As Aldous Huxley has remarked "The aging man of the middle twentieth century lives, not in the public world of atomic physics, and conflicting ideologies, of welfare states and super-sonic speed but in his strictly private universe of physical weakness and mental decay."

Every age and generation must be as free to act for itself in all cases as the ages and generations which preceded it. The vanity and presumption of governing beyond the grave is the most ridiculous and insolent of all tyrannies. In our country the past hovers over the young heads and naturally invites their revolt. Our social customs are moth-eaten and must be discarded like a thing of vice. After centuries of tyranny which we have perpetrated on our Harijan brethren we have failed to relent. Caste prejudices govern our social behaviour and the older generation moves along the old rut. The youth of today wish to have a clean break with this sordid behaviour. They would organize themselves to serve the Harijans, educate them, make their colonies cleaner and more hygienic, dine with them, marry into them and give them feelings of complete equality and fraternity. If the old generation gets scandalized, the fault

is their own. The young men are only cleaning the Augean stables. They must remove the old gods of their parents because these have been found wanting.

Consider again our marriage customs. Marriage which is a solemn agreement, a covenant for life-long partnership is made a business proposition. So much precious money flows down the drain: lavish and luxurious feasting, resulting in the mendous wastage of food, extravagant illuminations in an environment of acute power crisis. The young man of today cannot put up with this organized silliness and would grasp this sorry scheme of things to shatter it to bits. It is a different matter that he would draw the odium of his elders.

PARAGRAPH WRITING (Contd. from page 716)

*Fixed as a star, such glory
is thy right."*

The difficulty in life is the choice.

In the life of every man there comes a time when he is confronted with the terrible business of making a choice. He is then at the cross-roads, the parting of the ways. One road may lead on to fortune while the other takes him to shallow waters and miseries. There is no knowing which path should be followed. God's grace, the inner voice, chance, luck, intuition—any name is good enough when success comes. Hamlet in Shakespeare's play, had to choose between obeying the mandate of his Father's ghost to take revenge on his uncle and to spare the wicked uncle so as to prevent his mother's second widow-hood. Hamlet pondered over two choices, procrastinated and in so doing went crazy. On a much higher plane Arjuna was divided in his mind between the duty of punishing

All young people want to kick up their heels and defy conventions and crusty traditions. And that brings about the confrontation between the young and the old who charge them with lack of ideals. They forget that youth itself is an ideal, a way of looking at things in a fresh way unfettered by preconceptions and prejudices. They must be allowed to rebuild the world nearer their hearts desire and it will be a much more beautiful, much more happy, much more peaceful world.

It is indeed one of the capital tragedies of youth—and youth is the time of real tragedy—that the young are thrown mainly with adults they do not quite respect.

the evil sons of Dhritrashtra and refrain from killing his kith and kin. Luckily for him he had a Guide in the person of Lord Krishna and he chose a path which resulted in the triumph of righteousness.

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Intelligence TEST

1. Give one word, ending in "ism", for the following:—

A ridiculous misuse of a word, usually for one resembling it.

2. Insert the word that completes the first word and starts the second.

C (. . .) Y

3. The words in column A are similar in meaning to the words in column B in different serials. The spellings of all the words are jumbled. Name the serials of the words which form correct pair.

A B

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| 1. ELPESA | EDENY |
| 2. EFDNOF | TNELINSO |
| 3. ROOP | YFITAGR |
| 4. DEUR | JINUER |
| 5. THYEALW | FTNEULFA |

Example: ROOP and EDENY when re-arranged will read POOR and NEEDY which are similar in meaning and will therefore be put in one pair. The answer will be A3, B1.

4. The object is to reduce each word in length one letter at a time until you have reduced it as far as you can. Every letter deleted must leave a new word, one letter shorter; and the order of the letters must not be changed.

(a) VARLET: valet, vale, ale

(b) REVEL.....

(c) SHINGLE..

(d) LOUNGE..

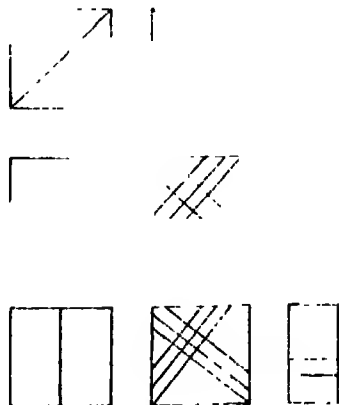
(e) SHALLOW

(f) STOOP.....

5. Find out at least eight articles of clothing from below. (The same letter may be repeated more than once in any one.)

T R C K
I F P L
H A J V
S E O U

6. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



7. What arithmetical sign should be put between each of the following to obtain the result given at the end.

(a) 20 10 15 = 15

(b) 36 17 10 = 29

8. While packing in your room for a quick journey by train, your room is plunged in darkness due to an electric failure. You have no other light handy nor have you any time to waste. All you now want to pack is a matching pair of socks from your trunk into your hand bag. In your trunk you have six black socks and six white ones, all mixed together. What is the smallest number of socks you can take out of your trunk and be sure of getting a pair of matching colour?

9. Provide the missing number.

528 (416) 720
525 () 714

10. Insert the missing number.

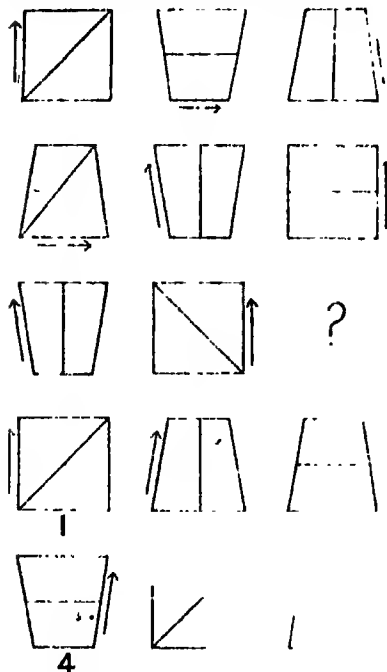
18 2 13
20 5 20
36 6 ?

11. Kundan is cleverer than Aruna, Aruna is cleverer than Maya. Who is the cleverest?

Choices: (a) Kundan (b) Aruna (c) Maya

12. A man's salary is reduced by 5 per cent, but after a year it is increased by 5 per cent. State whether he loses or gains and by what percentage?

13. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



14. Fill up the blanks in the following sentences:—

(a) Socks are to feet as gloves are to—

(b) Go is to going as tie is to—

(c) Woman is to man as Madam is to—

(d) Between is to two as— is to more than two.

15. If BUSTARD is a bird write A, otherwise write B.

16. The following sentences can be replaced or substituted by a single word. Find out the appropriate word for each sentence.

(a) A person who is liked by all.

(b) A thing that must happen.

(c) A person who believes in fate.

(d) A loss which cannot be repaired.

17. Choose the most appropriate choice from the choices given below:—

A modern educated man prefers living in a city to a

village because:

(a) The city life is glamorous.

(b) City atmosphere is good for health.

(c) The city provides a multiple choice of movies.

(d) There are more opportunities for gainful occupation in a city.

(e) Every thing is easily available in a city.

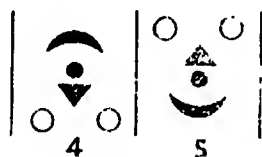
(f) The law and order situation is better in a city.

18. Supply the missing number.

6	7	8
7	8	9
8	.	0
9	0	1

19. Give a formula for finding the length of a string.

20. Write the number of the odd man out.



21. In which respect are the British postage stamps unique in the world?

22. Dominique Lapierre and Larry Collins wrote "Freedom at Midnight."

Who wrote, "Oh! Jerusalem", and "Is Paris Burning?"

Answers and Explanations

- Malapropism.
- OIL.
- A1, B3 (Please and gratify), A2, B4 (Offend and injure), A4, B2 (Rude and insolent), A5, B5 (Wealthy and affluent).
- (b) REVEL: reel, eel
(c) SHINGLE: sing, sing, in, I

(d) LOUNGE: lunge, lung, lug

(e) SHALLOW: hallow, hallo, hall, all

(f) STOOP, stop, sop, so
Trousers, Frock, Vest, Jacket, Skirt, Slip, Shirt, Coat.

2. (Lines inside the square increase by two and three progressively.

(a) +, — (b) —, +
Three. (Of any three socks taken out of the trunk, two must be the same colour.)

413. (Add the two numbers outside the brackets and divide by 3.)

10. 30. (Take half the first number and double the second one and add these two to get the third.)

11. (a) Kundan.
12. He loses by one per cent.
13. 3. (There are three types of main figures, with a vertical, horizontal or diagonal line inside each, and the arrow is either on left, right or bottom.)

14. (a) Hand (b) Tying (c) Sir
(d) Among

15. A.
16. (a) Popular (b) Inevitable
(c) Fatalist (d) Irreparable

17. (d)
18. 9. (The numbers 5678 are used in that order, each line beginning with the second number in the line before it.)

19. Twice the length from end to the middle.

20. 4. (1 and 5, and 2 and 3, are pairs; they are rotated through 180 degrees relative to each other, and black and white are interchanged. 4 does not fit into this scheme.)

21. They do not bear the name of the country of origin.

22. Same authors.

General Knowledge Test

Q. 1. Name the following:

(i) President of Uganda; (ii) Prime Minister of Bangladesh; (iii) President of the International Court of Justice; (iv) Prime Minister of Afghanistan; (v) U.S. Ambassador to China; (vi) Prime Minister of U.K.; (vii) India's Ambassador to Nepal; (viii) Prime Minister of Rumania; (ix) Black African freedom fighter who was hanged recently.

Ans. (i) Yusufu Lule; (ii) Shah Azizur Rahman; (iii) Sir Humphrey Waldo; (iv) Hafizullah Amin; (v) Leonard Woodcock; (vi) Mrs Margaret Thatcher; (vii) N.P. Jain; (viii) Ilse Verdet; (ix) Solomon Mahlangu.

Q. 2. Under what circumstances and on what basis an Emergency can be declared in India? How can it cease to be in operation?

Ans. A proclamation of Emergency can be issued by the President of India only when the security of India or any part of its territory is threatened by war or external aggression or by armed rebellion.

Internal disturbances not amounting to armed rebellion would not be a ground for the issue of a proclamation of Emergency.

The Constitution 44th Amendment Act, 1979 further provides that an Emergency can

be proclaimed only on the basis of written advice tendered to the President by the Cabinet so as to ensure that a proclamation is issued only after due and careful consideration.

As proclamation of Emergency virtually has the effect of amending the Constitution, it would have to be approved by both Houses of Parliament by the same majority which is necessary to amend the Constitution and such approval would have to be given within one month.

Any proclamation of Emergency would be in force only for six months and can be continued only by further resolutions passed by the same majority.

The proclamation of Emergency would cease to be in operation if a resolution disapproving the continuance of the Emergency proclamation is passed by the Lok Sabha (House of the People). Ten per cent or more of the members of the Lok Sabha can requisition for considering a resolution for disapproving the proclamation.

Q. 3. Name the authors of the following books:

(i) A Dangerous Place; (ii) Rebirth and Virgin Lands; (iii) Positivism in Bengal; (iv) The Story of My Life; (v) Finding a Voice—Asian Women in Britain.

Ans. (i) Daniel Patrick Moynihan; (ii) Leonid Brezhnev; (iii) Prof G.H. Forbes; (iv) Morarji Desai; (v) Mrs Amrit Wilson.

Q. 4. Name the capitals and currencies of the following countries:

(i) Australia; (ii) Denmark; (iii) Egypt; (iv) Yugoslavia; (v) Indonesia.

Ans. (i) Capital: Canberra; Currency: Dollar, (ii) Copenhagen; Krone, (iii) Cairo; Pound, (iv) Belgrade; Dinar, (v) Jakarta; Rupiah.

Q. 5. On what rivers are the following situated?

(i) Gauhati; (ii) Agra; (iii) Cuttack; (iv) Lucknow; (v) Nasik.

Ans. (i) Brahmaputra; (ii) Yamuna; (iii) Mahanadi; (iv) Gomti; (v) Godavari.

Q. 6. Who invented the following:

(i) Railway Engine; (ii) Transistor; (iii) Television; (iv) Printing Press; (v) Atom Bomb.

Ans. (i) George Stephenson; (ii) W. Shockley; (iii) J.L. Baird; (iv) William Caxton; (v) Otto Hahn.

Q. 7. Why do you use the following instruments?

(i) periscope; (ii) pyrometer; (iii) hydrometer; (iv) theodolite; (v) hygrometer.

Ans. (i) Periscope: It is usually used by the crew of a submarine to survey the ships etc. on the surface of the sea while the submarine is under water. It also enables the sailors to observe objects on the other side of an obstacle without exposing themselves.

(ii) Pyrometer: is an instrument for recording high temperatures from a great distance (i.e., for recording temperature of the sun etc.) by making use of the laws of radiation.

(iii) Hydrometer: is an instrument used for measuring the specific gravity of liquids.

(iv) Theodolite: is an instrument for measuring horizontal and vertical angle.

(v) Hygrometer: is an instrument used for measuring humidity in air.

Q. 8. With which games are the following cups or trophies associated?

(i) Santosh Trophy; (ii) Thomas Cup; (iii) Ashes; (iv) Rangaswamy Trophy; (v) Jules Rimet Trophy.

Ans. (i) Football; (ii) Badminton; (iii) Cricket; (iv) Hockey; (v) Football.

Q. 9. Give the year of occurrence of the following:

(i) Third battle of Panipat; (ii) Establishment of the East India Company in India; (iii) Invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni;

(iv) Indo-Pak agreement on POW's repatriation; (v) Battle of Plassey.

Ans. (i) 1761; (ii) 1600; (iii) 1000—1026; (iv) 1973; (v) 1757.

Q. 10. In which century did the following reign?

(i) Samudra Gupta; (ii) Shahjahan; (iii) Harshavardhana; (iv) Ashoka; (v) Muhammad Tughlaq.

Ans. (i) Fourth Century A.D.; (ii) Seventeenth Century

A.D.; (iii) Seventh Century A.D.; (iv) Third Century B.C. (273-272 B.C.); (v) Fourteenth Century A.D.

Q. 11. Fill up each blank by an appropriate word:

(i) Insulin is produced by——.

(ii) Pyorrhoea is a disease of the——.

(iii) —— is caused by enzymes.

(iv) Burning of sulphur is a——change.

(v) A——alters the speed of chemical reaction.

(vi) The planet——lies at the outermost orbit of the solar system.

(vii) The reading glass is a——lens.

(viii) A——is used to protect electric circuits.

(ix) Atoms having the same atomic number but differing in mass are called——.

(x) ——eclipses could occur on a new-moon day.

Ans. (i) pancreas, (ii) gums, (iii) organic decomposition, (iv) chemical, (v) catalyst, (vi) Pluto, (vii) convex, (viii) fuse, (ix) isotopes, (x) solar.

Q. 12. In which states are the following and what are they famous for?

(i) Sindri; (ii) Perambur; (iii) Sriharikota; (iv) Khadakvasla; (v) Digboi.

Ans. (i) Sindri: in Bihar State is known for fertilizer factory.

(ii) Perambur: in Tamil Nadu is famous for integral coach factory.

(iii) Sriharikota: In Andhra Pradesh is known as India's satellite launching and tracking centre.

(iv) Khadakvasla: near Pune in Maharashtra State is known for National Defence Academy.

(v) Digboi: in Assam is known for oil fields.

Q. 13. Write a note on the United Nations Organisation. (In not more than 100 words.)

Ans. U.N.O.: The U.N.O. is an organisation of Nations who have voluntarily joined together to work for world peace. It was founded in 1945 with headquarters at New York. The Charter of the United Nations was signed on the 26th June, 1945 by representatives of 51 nations at the San Francisco Conference. It came into force from 24th October 1945. The present strength of the U.N.O. is 150.

The aims and purposes of the U.N.O. are: (1) to maintain peace and security in the world; (2) to develop friendly relations among nations; (3) to work together to remove poverty, disease and illiteracy in the world; (4) to encourage respect for each other's rights and freedom and (5) to be centre for helping nations to achieve these goals.

Q. 14. In which States are the following located?

(i) National Metallurgical Laboratory; (ii) National Instruments Factory; (iii) Bharat Electronic Limited; (iv) Kanha National Park.

Ans. (i) Bihar; (ii) West Bengal; (iii) Karnataka; (iv) Madhya Pradesh.

Q. 15. What are Rabi crops and what are Kharif crops? (In not more than 50 words.)

Ans. Rabi Crops: are winter crops sown in October-November and reaped in April. These are wheat, gram, linseed and mustard.

Kharif Crops: are crops raised in autumn as a result of sowing made in June. These are cotton, rice, maize and Millets.

Q. 16. What are cash crops? Name five such crops grown in India?

(Contd on page 728)

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examination for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice out of the choices given below each question. More than one choice can be correct.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. A judge of a Special Court is to be nominated by the:

- (a) President of India
- (b) Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India
- (c) Chief Justice of the High Court with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India.

2. The Special Courts Act covers:

- (a) only instances of misuse of power during the emergency
- (b) instances of misuse of power during Emergency as well as instances of pre and post Emergency offences
- (c) all offences as per report of the Shah Commission

3. Under the Constitution (44th Amendment) Act:

- (a) the right to property will remain a fundamental right
- (b) the right to property will cease to be a fundamental right

(c) the right to property will become only a legal right

4. Which one of the following Articles in the Indian Constitution has been deleted vide the Constitution (44th Amendment) Act, 1979:

- (a) Article 19
- (b) Article 31
- (c) Article 32
- (d) Article 356

5. Which of the following political parties in Britain has been swept to power with a massive majority as a result of general elections held on May 3:

- (a) Conservative Party (Tories)
- (b) Labour Party
- (c) Liberal Party

6. Experts from India and Bangladesh have recently identified a number of items which India could import from Bangladesh with a view to rectify imbalance in trade between the two countries. Tick mark such items out of the list given below:

- (a) rice
- (b) newsprint
- (c) photofilms
- (d) naphtha
- (e) wheat
- (f) jute
- (g) timber

7. India and Bangladesh

have recently identified certain joint ventures. Tick mark the correct item in the list below:

- (a) cement
- (b) hosiery
- (c) sponge-iron
- (d) hand-made paper
- (e) printing machinery
- (f) machine tools

8. The Sarkar Commission, appointed on February 17, 1971 and wound up on April 18, 1979 was set up to:

- (a) enquire into causes of corruption in Government offices
- (b) working of Public Sector Corporations
- (c) the functioning of large industrial houses

9. The fifth session of the UNCTAD (U.N. Conference on Trade and Development) was opened on May 7 last in:

- (a) Geneva
- (b) Jakarta
- (c) Manila
- (d) Tokyo

10. The new Islamic News Agency (I.N.A.) has its headquarters in:

- (a) Jeddah (sea port in Saudi Arabia)
- (b) Teheran (capital of Iran)
- (c) Islamabad (capital of Pakistan)

11. Z.A. Bhutto, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, was hanged on:

- (a) April 3, 1979
- (b) April 4, 1979
- (c) April 5, 1979

12. The name of the President of Uganda is:

- (a) Idi Amin
- (b) Julius Nyerere
- (c) Milton Obote
- (d) Yusufu Lule

13. Shah Azizur Rahman has been appointed as the:

- (a) Prime Minister of Afghanistan
- (b) Prime Minister of Morocco
- (c) Prime Minister of Bangladesh

14. Mrs Margaret Thatcher is:

- (a) the third woman Prime Minister in the world
- (b) the fourth woman Prime Minister in the world
- (c) currently the world's only woman Prime Minister

15. Martin Luther King Award for 1978 has been awarded to:

- (a) Mrs Amrit Wilson
- (b) Vasant Vishramji Khyrde
- (c) President Sadat

16. El Arish is a/an:

- (a) satellite launched by the U.S.A. to help weatherman
- (b) area in Sinai from where Israeli forces initially began their pull-back immediately after signing of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty
- (c) satellite being launched by Pakistan with the help of U.S.A.

17. The book "Finding a Voice—Asian Women in Britain" has been written by:

- (a) Kuldip Nayar

- (b) Prof Zoe Ansari
- (c) Mrs Amrit Wilson

18. The controversial book "A Dangerous Place" has been written by:

- (a) Bruce Sibley
- (b) Richard Nixon
- (c) Daniel Patrick Moynihan

19. The author of the book "Positivism in Bengal" is:

- (a) Shibakali Bhattacharya
- (b) Prof G.H. Forbes
- (c) Arun Mitra

20. Who, among the following, have been awarded the Lenin Peace Prize on May 1 last:

- (a) K.P.S. Menon
- (b) I.K. Gujral
- (c) Nikolai Bolkhin
- (d) Angela Davis

21. Who, among the following, has won the 1979 Pulitzer Prize for fiction:

- (a) John Cheever
- (b) Saul Bellow
- (c) Alex Haley

22. The men's title in the world team championship in Table Tennis has been won by:

- (a) Holland
- (b) Belgium
- (c) China
- (d) Hungary

GEOGRAPHY

23. The stretch of Himalayas from east to west is:

- (a) 2,400 km.
- (b) 2,140 km.
- (c) 4,200 km.

24. The mountain which forms the western boundary of the Indian Sub-continent is called:

- (a) Kirthar
- (b) Hindukush
- (c) Satpura
- (d) Aravalli

25. The great marshy and useless tract lying north-west of the Gujarat region is called:

- (a) Sunderbans
- (b) Chhota Nagpur
- (c) Rann of Kutch

26. The Indian Sub-continent extends from:

- (a) 10°N—40°N
- (b) 7°N—32°N
- (c) 8°N—37°N.

27. About 98% of coal in India is produced in:

- (a) Gondwana coal fields
- (b) Tertiary coal fields
- (c) Raniganj coal fields

28. The coal reserves estimated in the Indian Union are:

- (a) 81,000 million tonnes
- (b) 80,950 million tonnes
- (c) 80,750 million tonnes
- (d) 70,950 million tonnes

29. India's output of crude petroleum is about:

- (a) 100 million tonnes
- (b) 7.2 million tonnes
- (c) 5.5 million tonnes
- (d) 50 million tonnes

30. The most important iron-ore fields are confined to:

- (a) Bihar
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Orissa
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

31. India's yearly production of iron ore is:

- (a) 33 million tonnes
- (b) 50 million tonnes
- (c) 43 million tonnes
- (d) 35 million tonnes

32. In Manganese production India ranks 2nd after:

- (a) U.S.A.
- (b) U.S.S.R.
- (c) France
- (d) Canada

33. About 55% of the Mica in India is produced by:

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Orissa
- (c) Bihar
- (d) West Bengal

34. In the population of India, the Muslims constitute:

- (a) 5%
- (b) 15%
- (c) 10%
- (d) 25%

35. The number of dialects in India is:

- (a) 250 .
- (b) 150
- (c) 50
- (d) 200

36. The average density of population in Pakistan is:

- (a) 40 persons per sq. km..
- (b) 20 persons per sq. km.
- (c) 100 persons per sq. km.
- (d) 50 persons per sq. km.

37. The Hirakud Project is located in the State of:

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Orissa .

38. The Rihand Project is built on the river:

- (a) Sutlej
- (b) Damodar
- (c) Sone
- (d) Rihand .

39. The height of Bhakra Dam is:

- (a) 226 metres .
- (b) 216 metres
- (c) 612 metres

40. Tata Iron and Steel Plant at Jamshedpur is supplied with water from the:

- (a) Damodar River
- (b) Ganga
- (c) Sone
- (d) Subarnarekha .

41. The Rourkela Steel Plant has been developed with the help of:

- (a) British engineers
- (b) Russian engineers
- (c) German engineers .

42. The annual rainfall in Bombay is about:

- (a) 285 cm
- (b) 185 cm .
- (c) 190 cm
- (d) 175 cm

43. Brahmaputra rises from a glacier lying:

- (a) S.W. of lake Mansrovar.
- (b) S.W. of lake Baikal
- (c) S.W. of Chilka lake

44. Rubber needs about:

- (a) 200—250 cm of rainfall .
- (b) 100—200 cm of rainfall
- (c) 250—350 cm of rainfall

HISTORY

45. Panchtantra was written during the reign of:

- (a) Gupta Rulers .
- (b) Maurya Rulers
- (c) Sakas

46. The world famous Kailasa Temple at Ellora is a marvellous specimen of:

- (a) Chalukya architecture
- (b) Rashtrakuta architecture .
- (c) Hoysala architecture

47. The first revolt of the Hindus against Aurangzeb's religious policy occurred in the district of:

- (a) Mewat
- (b) Narnaul
- (c) Mathura .

48. The Gol Gumbaz at Bijapur is a :

- (a) triumphant gateway
- (b) tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah
- (c) tomb of Muhammad Adil Shah of Bijapur .

49. Balaji Viswanath was made the Peshwa or Prime Minister of the Maratha kingdom in:

- (a) 1731 A.D.
- (b) 1371 A.D.
- (c) 1713 A.D. .

50. Goa was conquered by Albuquerque in:

- (a) 1515 A.D.
- (b) 1510 A.D. .
- (c) 1551 A.D.

51. Rabindra Nath Tagore died in:

- (a) 1914 A.D.
- (b) 1932 A.D.
- (c) 1923 A.D.
- (d) 1941 A.D. .

52. "What causes suffering is unfulfilled desire, and unfulfilled desire leads to rebirth." This is one of the Four Noble Truths preached by:

- (a) Mahavira
- (b) Buddha .
- (c) Lord Krishna

53. "Bhakti Cult" was a socio-religious movement revived in India during the:

- (a) 9th and 10th century A.D.
- (b) 13th and 14th century A.D.
- (c) 15th and 16th century A.D. .

54. The great objective of India's political unification after Independence i.e., integration of princely states with the Indian Union, was achieved through the efforts of:

- (a) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- (b) Dr Rajendra Prasad
- (c) Sardar Patel .

55. The Surat Congress session in 1907 is known for:

- (a) split between the moderates and the extremists
- (b) adoption of resolution to achieve complete Independence
- (c) Quit India resolution

56. Hieun-tsang, a Chinese pilgrim, visited India during the reign of:

- (a) Chandragupta Vikramaditya
- (b) Harsha Vardhana .
- (c) Samudragupta

57. "Permanent Settlement of Bengal" was the most important revenue system introduced by:

- (a) Lord Cornwallis .
- (b) Todar Mal
- (c) Sher Shah Suri

58. According to the carbon-dating process, the Indus Valley Civilization flourished between:

- (a) 1500 to 700 B.C.
- (b) 2000 to 1500 B.C.
- (c) 2500 to 1700 B.C. .

59. From archaeological excavation of Indus Valley sites it appears the people belonging to that era:

- (a) cultivated barley and wheat
- (b) did not know how to spin both cotton and woollen threads

(Contd. on page 741)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

1. A discrete particle of light is called a:
 - (a) stroma
 - (b) quantasome
 - (c) granum
 - (d) photon
2. Energy may be divided into the two broad categories of:
 - (a) potential energy and chemical energy
 - (b) kinetic energy and electrical energy
 - (c) potential energy and kinetic energy
 - (d) photic energy and chemical energy
3. It is best not to rinse a fever thermometer in:
 - (a) an antiseptic solution
 - (b) cold water
 - (c) tepid water
 - (d) hot water
4. The fundamental experiment of determining how much heat is equivalent to a given amount of mechanical work was performed by:
 - (a) Maxwell
 - (b) Diesel
 - (c) Watts
 - (d) Joule
5. In free space gamma rays and radio waves have the same:
 - (a) speed
 - (b) period
 - (c) quality
 - (d) amplitude
6. Which of the following elements has atoms whose atomic number and atomic mass are numerically equal?
 - (a) oxygen
 - (b) silicon
 - (c) iron
 - (d) hydrogen
7. The amount of oxygen in the atmosphere remains relatively constant because oxygen is given off by:
 - (a) rocks
 - (b) animals
 - (c) plants
 - (d) the ocean
8. A non-uniform heterogeneous material is called:
 - (a) compound
 - (b) mixture
 - (c) solution
 - (d) molecule
9. Which of the following isotopes is used in the treatment of cancer?
 - (a) U^{238}
 - (b) I^{130}
 - (c) Co^{60}
 - (d) Ba^{138}
10. Which of the following elements is not radioactive?
 - (a) Radium
 - (b) Polonium
 - (c) Iridium
 - (d) Thorium
11. The chemical substances that make foods soluble are called:
 - (a) hormones
 - (b) auxins
 - (c) antacids
 - (d) enzymes
12. The part of a tooth that is composed of the hardest substance in the body is the:
 - (a) root
 - (b) dentine
 - (c) cement
 - (d) enamel
13. Digestion of carbohydrates and proteins are both processes which involve:
 - (a) hydrolysis
 - (b) fermentation
 - (c) denaturation
 - (d) condensation
14. Which scientist first showed that X-rays can speed up the rate of mutation?
 - (a) Morgan
 - (b) De Vries
 - (c) Weismann
 - (d) Muller
15. Which is a multicellular organism?
 - (a) yeast
 - (b) bacteria
 - (c) pleurococcus
 - (d) hydra
16. A human tooth best adapted for biting is the:
 - (a) molar
 - (b) premolar
 - (c) incisor
 - (d) wisdom
17. The main function of bile is to:
 - (a) digest protein
 - (b) dissolve minerals
 - (c) change starch to sugar
 - (d) emulsify fats
18. The nutrient absorbed by the large intestine in the greatest quantity is:
 - (a) water
 - (b) amino acids
 - (c) fatty acids
 - (d) vitamin C
19. Exercise increases the rate of breathing because it results in an increase in the blood of:
 - (a) oxygen
 - (b) carbon monoxide
 - (c) nitrogen
 - (d) carbon dioxide
20. During inspiration, the ribs:
 - (a) do not move
 - (b) move downward
 - (c) move inward
 - (d) move upward
21. Of the total solar energy which reaches the earth's atmosphere, about what per cent

actually reaches the earth's surface ?

- (a) 19
- (b) 35
- (c) 54
- (d) 46

22. The danger of air pollution becomes more serious when there is:

- (a) a storm
- (b) low pressure
- (c) a clear sky
- (d) a temperature inversion

23. Days and nights are equal at the Tropic of Cancer on:

- (a) March 21
- (b) June 21
- (c) December 21
- (d) January 1

24. If you travel east from Japan, crossing the date line on Wednesday, at 10 a.m., what day and time is it immediately after you cross the date line ?

- (a) Thursday at 10 a.m.
- (b) Tuesday at 10 p.m.
- (c) Tuesday at 10 a.m.
- (d) Wednesday at 10 p.m.

25. In which of the following minerals is India not self-sufficient?

- (a) Copper
- (b) Iron ore
- (c) Coal
- (d) Mica

**Increases (I), Decreases (D),
Remains the same (RS)**

Directions: Write the term (increases, decreases, remains the same) that, when inserted in the blank, will correctly complete each statement.

26. As the oxygen content of blood decreases, the carbon dioxide content——.

27. As insulin production increases, the concentration of sugar in the blood usually——.

28. As the number of disease bacteria in a person's body increases, the number of white corpuscles usually——.

29. During the process of crossing over, the amount of

genetic material in a cell——.

30. As the amount of water vapour in the air increases, the rate at which plants transpire usually——.

Explain

31. Why is it that people vary in their immunities to diseases?

32. How a person can be protected against tetanus in advance. What can be done for a person who has begun to show signs of the disease?

33. Why is it that tetanus is commonly associated with deep puncture-type wounds?

34. What is it about a housefly that makes it a likely organism to spread disease?

35. What is the difference between active and passive immunity?

36. Matching Test

Directions: For each of questions (a) through (e), write the number of the biological principle, chosen from the list below, which is most closely related to that statement.

- 1. Blending inheritance
- 2. Hybrid vigor
- 3. in breeding
- 4. Law of segregation
- 5. Linkage
- 6. Mutation
- 7. Vegetative propagation

(a) Roan-coloured cattle have red and white parents.

(b) Hemophilia is carried by a sex chromosome.

(c) Radiation has produced changes in animals that may be harmful in future generation.

(d) Two brown-eyed parents have a blue-eyed child.

(e) Self-pollination of plants enables breeders to establish the type of new plant varieties.

Fill in the blanks

37.(a) Three factors affecting transpiration——, and——.

(b) Plants that grow where relatively small amounts of

water are available are called

(c) The wavelength of light most effective in photosynthesis are the——and the——.

(d) The exchange of gases (carbon dioxide and oxygen) between the blood and the air is known as——.

(e) Starch and glycogen are built of many——units.

Test your knowledge

38. There have been several theories that have attempted to explain the solar system. One of the earliest, about 130 A.D., was stated by 1. He thought that the 2 went round the 3. This idea persisted for more than 1400 years. Then a man named 4 stated that the 5 was the centre of the solar system. Another great scientist, named 6, invented the telescope and so helped to establish the new idea. There are many ideas about the formation of our planets. Some say they came from the sun, pulled out by a passing star. This is known as the 7 theory. There are 8 known planets. The one nearest the sun is 9, farthest from the sun is 10. The largest is 11 and the one nearest the earth in size is 12. The one on which we are sure that there is life is 13. Besides the planets, there are a large number of 14 located between Mars and 15.

Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

39.(a) LEM (b) LOR (c) RCS
(d) epicenter (e) stratosphere (f) mesosphere.

ANSWERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (c) |
| 3. (d) | 4. (d) |
| 5. (a) | 6. (d) |
| 7. (c) | 8. (b) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (c) |
| 11. (d) | 12. (d) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (d) |
| 15. (d) | 16. (c) |

17. (d) 18. (a)
 19. (d) 20. (d)
 21. (d) 22. (d)
 23. (a) 24. (c)
 25. (a) 26. I
 27. D 28. I
 29. RS 30. D

31. People vary in their immunities largely because a given person has developed antibodies against some diseases, but not against others, and the degree to which these antibodies are present depends upon various factors including the passage of time.

32. Tetanus toxoid—a vaccine—can be used to immunize an individual against the disease. If disease symptoms have already appeared, tetanus antitoxin can be used to provide passive immunity.

33. The organism of tetanus is an anaerobe. It cannot prosper and multiply in shallow wounds because it comes in contact with too much oxygen. It does prosper in puncture-type wounds from which oxygen is largely excluded.

34. In the first place, a housefly is covered with hairs and bristles that provide an excellent lodging place for germs. In addition, a housefly frequents places where germs are likely to be, visiting garbage cans, the bodies of dead animals, and piles of refuse.

35. When your own body forms the antibodies you have developed active immunity. When you receive the antibodies from the blood serum of another person or a laboratory animal, you have passive immunity.

36. (a) 1
 (b) 5
 (c) 6
 (d) 4
 (e) 3

37. (a) humidity, temperature, and light
 (b) xerophytes
 (c) red, blue

- (d) external respiration
 (e) glucose
 38. 1. Ptolemy
 2. sun
 3. earth
 4. Copernicus
 5. sun
 6. Galileo
 7. planetesimal
 8. nine
 9. Mercury
 10. Pluto
 11. Jupiter
 12. Venus
 13. Earth
 14. Planetoids (asteroids)

15. Jupiter
 39. (a) Lunar Excursion Module
 (b) Lunar Orbital Rendezvous
 (c) Reactive Control System
 (d) The point or line on the earth's surface directly above the center or focus of an earthquake's origin.
 (e) The atmospheric zone in which the temperature increases slowly with height.
 (f) The atmospheric layer just above the stratosphere.

G. K. TEST (Contd. from page 722)

Ans. Cash Crops: Crops which are produced for sale (for trading purposes) and not for consumption by the farmer and his family for subsistence are known as cash crops viz., cotton, jute, tobacco, rubber, oil seeds.

Q. 17. Describe some of the systems of irrigation used in India.

Ans. Some of the systems of irrigation used in India are: (1) Canals, (2) Wells, (3) Tube-wells; and (4) Tanks.

Canals: Canals are the most important of the systems of irrigation in India because: (i) the rivers are snow-fed and never run dry; (ii) the plain has a soft and alluvial soil, so canals can be easily dug; (iii) the rainfall is insufficient for irrigation and wells alone cannot satisfy the needs of agriculturists.

Wells: Wells are found all over India but these are largely used in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Bihar. They are also used in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The reason for irrigation by wells is that the soil is porous and after a rainfall, water is stored up below the soil, and wells can be easily sunk.

Tube-wells: Irrigation by tube-wells has become very popular these days. Tube-wells are worked by electric power.

These are much deeper than the ordinary wells. Due to shortage of power, the agriculturists do face the difficulty in running the tube-wells as and when they require but the prosperous ones are making use of the diesel engines for the purpose.

Tanks: Tanks are used in the Deccan plateau—especially in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and in some part of Madhya Pradesh. They are made by filling natural hollows with water or by building dams across the river valleys. As the soil is rocky in these areas, it is not easy to sink wells. The soil is not porous and the rain water flows off; canals cannot be constructed as the rivers are not snow-fed. So the tanks are the chief means of irrigation in the Deccan plateau.

Q. 18. (i) What is the velocity of light (give in metres)?

(ii) Where is the headquarters of International Atomic Energy Agency?

(iii) In which year did man first land on moon?

(iv) What is the mean distance of the moon from the earth (give in kilometres)?

- Ans.** (i) 299,782 km./sec.
 (ii) Vienna (Austria)
 (iii) 1969
 (iv) 384,397 km.

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Each of the following sentences is divided into three parts 1, 2 and 3. Indicate by its number the part in which a mistake occurs. If you do not detect any, put down the number 4.

(a) I told him on his face (1) that I have yet to come across (2) a more mischievous man than him (3).

(b) Negotiations among the employers and the workers (1) broke up last Monday (2) because neither side was prepared to relent on the bonus issue (3).

(c) Twice during the seventy previous years Germany has gone (1) on war with England (2) and both times it has been defeated (3).

(d) I am definitely of the opinion (1) that we have put the right man (2) in the right place in our factory (3).

(e) I have tried hard (1) out find it difficult (2) to trace the trouble to the source (3).

(f) Experience tells us (1) that out-door games are not only good for the body (2) but also for the mind (3).

(g) He must not be allowed to attend classes (1) until he does not apologize (2) for his rude behaviour (3).

(h) Carlyle has defined genius to be (1) an infinite capacity in taking pains (2) for whatever we do (3).

(i) Think of his bad luck (1) that he had scarcely recovered from his fever (2) than he caught cold (3).

(j) Take it from me (1) that though every one of your colleagues speaks ill of you (2) but I will support your case (3).

Q. II. Fill in the gaps in the following sentences with prepositions selected from the list at the end. Indicate by the relevant number of the preposition.

(a) When all the tests were carried—it was found that the patient suffered—typhoid.

(b) I have been trying to contact him—the phone but —no purpose.

(c) The miscreants scattered glass pieces all—the place, causing damage—the passing vehicles.

(d) The entire party almost turned—him and decided—his ouster.

(e) The politicians are busy—their own disputes and who will bother—the sufferings of the masses.

(f) He drank like a fish and on coming out—the hotel stumbled—the wicket-gate.

(g) I have cleared my account—the last penny and heaved a sigh—relief.

(h) The orders to hang him were carried out—the last syllable and there was no protest—was apprehended.

(i) He won the election—the combined opposition—several trade unions.

(j) —all accounts it appears that a conspiracy has been hatched—him.

2. against
3. about
4. from
5. of
6. on
7. out
8. over
9. to
10. with

Q. III. Each sentence given below contains a statement followed by several responses. Point out (by its number) the response you think most appropriate.

(a) He talks about going to the moon next year. He must

1. have no other work to do
2. have lots of money
3. be crazy

(b) He said he would sing, but he hasn't. He must have

1. been bragging
2. forgotten all about it
3. had a bad throat

(c) He drives an Ambassador and his wife an Austin. They must

1. have quarrelled
2. be working in different offices
3. be rolling in money

(d) I am amazed that she

married him so soon. She can't have

1. got to know him very well
2. been eighteen yet
3. done her graduation

(e) He has been given three months' notice of termination. He must

1. be a permanent employee
2. have lost his employer's confidence
3. be a happy man now

Q. IV. Make compound words, according to the definitions, using the word given as the first part of the compound.

1. stand

(a) unfriendly, distant in manner

(b) complete stoppage

(c) thing or person to be requisitioned if necessary

2. book

(a) person who keeps accounts

(b) person over-given to reading

(c) support to keep books upright when not kept on a shelf

3. head

(a) obstinate

(b) place from which operations are controlled

(c) progress

4. fire

(a) made of material that will not burn

(b) weapon of offence or defence

(c) those whose job is to extinguish fires

5. play

(a) one who goes to the theatre quite often

(b) a dramatist

(c) piece of land earmarked for games

Q. V. Put the appropriate word in each blank space.

(a) Principal, principle

1. The——exports are jute, rice and spices.

2. She threw all——to the winds.

3. A new——has been appointed.

(b) Observation, observance

1. Good health depends on the——of a few rules.

2. The patient will be kept under——for a week.

3. I should very much commend his powers of——.

(c) Depreciate, deprecate

1. Carping criticism should always be——.

2. Steel shares have greatly ——during these weeks.

3. No words are too strong to——resort to violence.

(d) Refuse, deny

1. The thief——having committed the theft.

2. The Principal——to declare Monday as a holiday.

3. While I was in prison, even the most ordinary amenities were——to me.

(e) Ascent, assent

1. As we neared the peak, the——was steep and arduous.

2. The President is withholding his——to the controversial bill.

3. The——to greatness is no easy job.

Q. VI. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

A little group of men, all of whom had achieved conspicuous success in life were recently talking after dinner round the fire in the smoking-room of a London Club. They included an eminent lawyer, a politician whose name is a house-hold word, a well-known divine, and a journalist. The talk traversed many themes and arrived at that familiar proposition. If it were in your power to choose, would you live this life again? With one exception the answer was a unanimous 'no'. The exception, I may remark, was not the

divine. He like the majority, has found one visit to the play enough. He did not want to see it again.

The question, I suppose is as old as humanity. And the answer is old too, and has always, I fancy resembled that of our little group round the smoking-room fire. It is a question that does not present itself until we are middle-aged; for the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts, and life then stretches out in such an interminable vista as to raise no question of its recurrence. It is when you have reached the top of the pass and are on the downward slope, with the evening shadows falling over the valley and the church-tower with the end of the journey in view; that the question rises unbidden to the lips. The answer does not mean that the journey has not been worthwhile. It only means that the way has been long and rough; that we are footsore and tired and that the thought of rest is sweet. It is nature's way of reconciling us to our common lot. She has shown her child all the pageant of life and now prepares him for his 'patrimony of a little mould'—yes, it is enough. We accept the verdict of mortality uncomplainingly,—nay, we would not wish it to be reversed, even if that were possible.

Questions

1. What was the question which engaged the attention of the little group of men?

2. Every body's answer was in the negative except that of the divine. Yes or no?

3. The divine had found one visit to the play enough. Explain.

4. The question crops up only when we are middle-aged because:

(a) the joys of youth are gone

(Contd. on page 735)

Argumentative Questions

ON

CURRENT PROBLEMS

- "Death" on Death Sentence
- UNCTAD is a Farce
- Modern Maharajas
- World's New Menace

"Death" on Death Sentence

Q. In the dismal context of the hanging of Mr Bhutto and the execution of scores of people in Iran and other countries the morality and justice of the death sentence is again being questioned all over the world. Do you agree with the view that the death sentence should be abolished? Give reasons *For* and *Against* the view.

Ans. The death penalty is an anachronism in the world of today and is a blot on our civilisation. In recent years this form of punishment has been used very often and with a vengeance in Muslim and certain other countries, notably Iran, Uganda and Saudi Arabia. The question is now being asked: what right has society to take away the life of a person by way of punishment for committing an offence? Are we to go back to the age of barbarism and must we lose all sense of proportion? The very basis of the belief that "once a murderer always a murderer" is wrong. Everyone should have a chance to reform himself. On the other hand, many people feel that a person who kills another is dangerous to society and it is but right that he should suffer the heaviest punishment possible so that others may learn a lesson.

Arguments For the View (in favour of death sentence)

1. Unless capital punishment (death sentence) continues to be awarded for murderer or conspiracy to murder, people having criminal tendencies will continue to commit serious crimes. The fear of hanging and of the electric chair or execution by shooting acts as a deterrent.

2. If a person commits a murder and gets only a life sentence (which actually means about 10 to 15 years' jail after allowing for remissions, etc.) the probability is that he will commit another murder sooner or later. Such dangers to society must be removed and the criminals have forfeited all right to live. Criminal tendencies are very difficult to eradicate from the mind of a murderer.

3. If all murderers are jailed for some years and not hanged, the country's jails would soon be overcrowded because the number of murders being committed is rising from year to year. Can the Government afford to have its jails full of "lifers" (people undergoing life sentence) and feed them almost endlessly out of public funds?

4. The various surveys about criminals reforming themselves are misleading because

there is no survey of the murders that have been prevented by the fear of hanging. Even persons supposed to have been reformed have later turned out to be double murderers. Besides, several countries, such as France, which abolished the death sentence have felt compelled to re-introduce it to ensure adequate and befitting justice.

5. Basically, the death sentence is arbitrary; several cases have occurred of criminals being sentenced to death by some Judges and acquitted by other Judges. The cases of human error make such extreme action totally unjustifiable. Later a hanged person might be found innocent, but then it is too late to undo the wrong.

Arguments Against death sentence

1. Studies conducted in the U.S.A., Britain and certain other countries have shown that the death sentence has not acted as a deterrent to others. In some cases there have been fewer murders where capital punishment has been abolished.

2. It is society that is to blame for creating conditions that prompt people to commit crimes; so the fault lies with society, not with the individual offender. If social and economic justice are assured all round,

there would be fewer provocations for wreaking vengeance on others and for nursing a sense of grievance and frustration. Psychic stress which leads to crimes should be eliminated by society itself.

3. A murdered man or woman cannot be brought back to life by hanging another. In fact the chances are that a reformed criminal, given the chance, would turn out to be a good citizen. Dacoit Man Singh's son has provided us with a good example. When he was released on parole to attend his daughter's wedding he went to each house where he had committed a murder and sought forgiveness and offered his head. No one killed him but everyone forgave him. Again, Acharyan Vinoba Bhave and Mr Jayaprakash Narayan persuaded many dacoits and murderers in the Chambal Valley to reform themselves and become useful citizens.

4. Hanging is generally recognised as a revolting form of punishment. Laws and punishment should be humanised in accordance with the progress of civilisation and general enlightenment. Statistics show that murders there will be, whether the death sentence is retained or not. So why retain a cruel practice?

UNCTAD is a Farce

Q. In May, 1979, UNCTAD V sessions were held at Manila and were attended by spokesmen of about 120 developing countries. The previous UNCTAD sessions achieved very little and merely provided occasions for rhetoric and empty promises. Countless people feel that this exercise should, therefore, be ended. Give reasons *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. Like the first four sessions of UNCTAD held during the past two decades (at Geneva, New Delhi, Santiago

and Nairobi at four-yearly intervals), the fifth session (held at Manila from May 7 until the end of the month) had a wide-ranging agenda and was expected to have a major impact on international economic policies in the decades to come. It was also expected to provide a broad framework for the Third Development Decade beginning in the 1980s. The tragedy is that the affluent countries make no firm promises and even such half-hearted promises which they make are seldom fulfilled. Among the major challenges now confronting the developing nations is that of protectionism which the rich nations is now adopting as a policy to safeguard their own interests, regardless of what happens to the rest of the world. A paper presented to the Manila session of UNCTAD called for the necessary "political will" among the developed countries to reverse the trend of the falling quantum of economic aid to the needy nations (Official Development Assistance—ODA) so that by 1985 at least the U.N. target of 0.70 per cent of the G.N.P. as aid to needy countries is achieved. The percentage of the USA, Japan and West Germany at present is 0.30, 0.45 and 0.53 respectively. But such calls have proved futile in the past, making the UNCTAD exercises a big question-mark.

Arguments For the View (UNCTAD is Futile)

1. The results of the recent Tokyo round of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) and Multilateral Trade negotiations and of the talks on establishing a Common Fund for developing countries have been disappointing. This shows that there has been no change in the discouraging attitudes of the rich countries and that they are determined to follow selfish policies to promote their own interests. The developed coun-

tries stubbornly refuse to meet the challenges posed by the economic disparities and the structural disequilibrium in the international division of labour, and that of re-fashioning the payments and financial systems.

2. Almost the only weapon in the hands of the Third World countries in their tussle against the industrialised regions is unity and mutual technical and economic co-operation. But, thanks to the split caused by the rich countries themselves and the local jealousies, there is no sign yet of such co-operation. Instead, there is discord and disunity which admirably suit the affluent countries; no wonder they exploit the situation. "Divide and Rule" is an old game in which the Big Powers are experts.

3. The tragedy of the situation also becomes apparent from the fact that (a) the developing countries suffered a loss in foreign exchange of over 30 billion dollars in 1978 as a result of the serious deterioration of the terms of trade manipulated by the richer nations. The continuing inflation in industrial countries resulting in higher prices of their manufactured goods as well as a depression in primary commodity prices has caused this disconcerting situation.

4. The total outstanding debt of the developing countries rose from 114 billion in 1973 to 244 billion in 1977 and was put at almost 300 billion in 1978. So the financial plight of the needy countries has actually been worsening since UNCTAD-I was held.

Arguments Against (in favour of UNCTAD)

1. Repeated demands at UNCTAD and other similar international conferences help focus attention on the world's glaring disparities and the urgency of redressing such dis-

crepancies. If no such conferences are held, there would be even less chance of the weaker sections of humanity getting justice and of voicing their demands and ultimately of closing their ranks to promote the common interest.

2. Such conferences help build up public opinion and also expose the bigger countries for not keeping their promises of aid and more trade. Reiteration of the developing world's demand for a 25 per cent share in world industrial production by 2,000 A.D. according to the Lima Declaration (1975) and also for a 30 per cent share of world trade in manufactures and semi-manufactures proves helpful. It is no use giving up the game in utter despair. Grand gestures on the part of the affluent nations may not be forthcoming just yet, but sooner or later there is bound to be rethinking over the gross injustices being perpetrated all over the world.

3. Comparative advantage has already shifted in many fields of production in favour of the less developing countries, for instance, in textiles, garments, footwear, some categories of steel, mechanical and engineering goods etc.

4. Already the demand for a Common Commodity Fund, voiced at the Nairobi (UNCTAD) has been conceded even though not fully, the size being 400 million dollars instead of a billion dollars. But something is better than nothing.

Modern Maharajas

Q. The style of living of several senior executives of public sector undertakings has earned them the title of "Modern Maharajas". The "perks" and other amenities they enjoy are described as "unsurpassed in the annals of public sector enterprises". Give reasons for and

against the view that these "perks" should be drastically reduced. Indian taxpayer's money lessly being wasted.

Ans. India is a poor country and cannot afford the luxuries and the highly expensive style of senior executives of Government undertakings. In its 42nd report Parliament's Committee on Public Enterprises has stated that some of the executives are "embodiments in flesh and blood of the insignia of the national carrier (on aircraft of Air-India) —the Maharaja." The Committee has also expressed the view that even though privy purses have been abolished, these neo-princes are fattening themselves with Air-India's money in complete disregard of the norms laid down by the Government. Many of them have apparently been living like Maharajas at the cost of the poor millions of the country. Such glaring anomalies in a country like India where about half the people live below the poverty line create social tensions and considerable discontent, and also bring out the sharp contrast between the standard of living of the masses and God's chosen few. But there is also the other side. Since Air-India has to compete with several international airlines, it would be absurd to present a low standard of living and fail to provide entertainment to foreigners who are used to a much higher standard and who will otherwise get a poor impression of the quality of Indian air services.

Arguments For the View (against Modern Maharajas)

1. The Committee of M.Ps. which has described the perquisites being enjoyed by public sector executives as "unsurpassed" in the history of public sector enterprises certainly had reasons for doing so; the amount they spend on luxuries, personal entertainment and on big residential houses is nothing short of scandalous. It is all the poor

2. According to the Committee's findings, even though privy purses have been abolished, these "neo-princes" are fattening themselves with Air-India's money in complete disregard of the norms. "Some of these executives have managed to appropriate the lion's share of the expenditure on perquisites which often runs into five digits. Is it not absurd that a single individual should have the permission to saddle the exchequer with a monthly expenditure of Rs. 14,120 or Rs. 470 a day. A former commercial director incurred an expenditure of Rs. 77,642 on entertainment through bills during 1977-78. Just note the tally: I.O.C. Chairman's "perks" were Rs. 39,372 for 1976-77; those of the Managing Director of the Hotel Corporation of India, Rs. 31,494, and of the chief of the India Tourism Corporation Rs. 34,200. And all this apart from the handsome pay they get in any case. The expenditure on interior decoration and on bungalows and furnishings also far exceed the norms prescribed by the Government. The average annual value of the perks enjoyed by Air-India officers was Rs. 33,000 to Rs. 39,000 in 1977-78. And the Committee says this is a gross underestimate as it does not include a number of items and the value of certain facilities enjoyed by the officers and their families. The expenditure on "personal entertainment" also runs into thousands every month, thus proving that the taxpayers' money is being recklessly spent.

Arguments Against the View (For the "perks")

1. To say that the senior executives are a pampered lot is incorrect; in India we insist on austerity and economy; in foreign countries Indian officials have to maintain a standard

equivalent to those of the other officers, otherwise Indian air services' impression would be poor and very few foreigners would like to fly by Air-India aircraft. Poor hospitality and an unbecoming standard of living would be interpreted to mean poor operation efficiency.

2. Modern airlines operate in highly competitive conditions; you have to attract business in the shape of air passengers, and if you do not establish goodwill and high-level contacts, business is bound to be poor. For doing good business you have to entertain people as best as you can and at the level adopted by other foreign companies. There may be some cases of securing personal advantage and wasting money on personal entertainment but, by and large, the expenditure has been found necessary for business purposes.

3. Life and living in foreign countries and also the salary scales are all on a much higher scale than in India. It is hardly fair to apply Indian standards and yardsticks to the salaries paid and the expenditure incurred abroad. A short-sighted view in such matters may ruin the prospects of our air services and divert traffic to airlines which are able to offer several inducements to passengers and for carrying cargo in a sphere where the competition is increasing every year. It would be sheer folly to try to force austere Indian standards on officials living abroad or dealing with foreigners most of the time.

World's New Menace

Q. The "day of reckoning" for nuclear energy has come and the dangerous radio-active leaks in many nuclear plants should be a warning against such power generation. Do you agree with this view? Give reasons For and Against the new world think-

ing on the role of nuclear energy.

Ans. A large-scale movement has just started in the U.S.A. against what is described as the "nuclear menace". The highly dangerous radio-active leak in the nuclear plant in Three Mile Island (off the U.S. coast) in March has triggered off a campaign against the establishment of nuclear plants. What the people of the affected localities in the U.S.A. passed through when the nuclear leak was discovered was nothing short of a nightmare; the large-scale exodus of men, women and children, the abandonment of homes and the terrible panic were all reminiscent of a major world tragedy which was fortunately averted but which could occur again any time at any of the world's nuclear power stations. Anti-nuclear demonstrations in the U.S.A. have brought the nuclear issue before the public with a vengeance, and at places there have been cases of angry demonstrators forcibly occupying the new sites where nuclear stations are under construction. Among the protesters is a group called the "Torness Alliance", which stresses the importance of keeping the environment clean and of guarding against air pollution. The U.S. Administration is being denounced for relying too much on nuclear energy in the shape of electricity. The anti-nuclear movement is also catching on in Europe where, likewise, the extent of the danger is being realised.

Arguments For the View (Against expansion of N-plants)

1. The risks associated with nuclear power are now increasing along with the increase in the number of nuclear power plants. There was a time when it was believed that the danger to human life was minimal in nuclear plants because of the scores of safety devices, but now the powerful nuclear lobby it-

self is badly cornered and is unable to defend the rapid proliferation of such methods for power generation to meet the growing needs in the context of the growing danger.

2. Recent studies on nuclear hazards have disclosed a highly disturbing state of affairs. The growing hazards arise at various stages—mining of radio-active materials, fabrication of atomic fuel elements, exposures during the operation of plants, risks during storage, handling and transportation of nuclear materials and, of course, during a leak like the one that occurred at Three Mile Island.

3. That the Three Mile Island mishap was no isolated incident is clear from the fact that no fewer than 16 nuclear stations are suffering from "corrosion" which is the result of a chemical action caused by radio-activity. These leaks have dealt a major blow to the nuclear industry all over the world. The question is now being asked in the U.S.A. and elsewhere: What is the good of a chicken in every pot if the broth is radio-active?

4. Even when no major nuclear leaks are reported, some radiation continues all the time. A study by experts has revealed that thousands of additional cancer deaths are likely to take place because of nuclear radiation in the next two decades. Thus the price for nuclear electricity which the world will have to pay is heavy, and it is time to reconsider the situation and call a halt to power generation through atomic fission. Alternative sources of fuel and for power supply, both hydel and thermal, should be seriously investigated.

Arguments Against the View

1. Accidents and mishaps are only to be expected in the highly industrialised world of today; such accidents take place

everywhere—on the road, in the air and on sea, through collisions and mechanical failures, etc., and in factories through human failures and other causes. Why should accidents in nuclear establishments be singled out as posing a great hazard to mankind? Besides as the U.S. episode has shown, even major leaks can be controlled. The net loss on Three Mile Island was very little.

2. Imagine what the world would be like if all the nuclear power stations, spread over various continents and serving vital needs are closed down and the planning of new ones stopped because of the panic over the danger of leakages and the possibility of radio-activity? Economic progress would be halted, and many regions would be plunged into darkness if electricity through nuclear plants is not available. Nuclear power is the cheapest in the world and

even if a mishap takes place now and then, it is only a small price to pay for the immense benefits humanity derives from nuclear energy generated for peaceful purposes.

3. As for radiation damage in the shape of cancer cases, there is no solid proof that cancer incidence has increased sharply since the installation of nuclear plants for generating power. Diseases like cancer have been multiplying owing to a variety of causes, nuclear energy or no nuclear energy.

4. The new slogans being raised in the U.S.A. against nuclear energy are, by and large, politically motivated and designed to oust President Carter. Such talk as the "need of a new politics, of the unimagined generation that will pay the price of this generation's folly" is prompted by extraneous considerations.

- (b) 2
- (c) 3
- (d) 1
- (e) 2

(Question IV)

1. (a) stand-offish
(b) standstill
(c) stand-by
2. (a) book-keeper
(b) book-worm
(c) book-rests
3. (a) head-strong
(b) head-quarters
(c) headway
4. (a) fire-proof
(b) fire-arm
(c) fireman
5. (a) play-goer
(b) play-wright
(c) play-ground

(Question V)

- (a) 1. principle
2. principles
3. principal
- (b) 1. observance
2. observation
3. observation
- (c) 1. deprecated
2. depreciated
3. deprecate
- (d) 1. denied
2. refused
3. denied
- (e) 1. ascent
2. assent
3. ascent

(Question VI)

1. Would any one like to live over this life again?
2. No.
3. One life is quite enough.
- c.f. All the world is a stage and all the men and women merely players.
4. (c)
5. The grave that gives rest to our tired bones.
6. The universal desire for rest after life.

Objective-Type Tests—English Language

(Contd. from page 730)

or (b) we find no meaning in life
or (c) we want rest after this strenuous life.

5. "Patrimony of a little mould". What does the expression mean?

6. Suggest a suitable title to the passage.

(c) has Germany gone, to war

(d) no mistake

(e) to its source

(f) are good not only for the body

(g) unless he apologizes

(h) genius as, for taking pains

(i) when he caught cold

(j) yet I will

(Question II)

(a) 7, 4

(b) 6, 9

(c) 8, 9

(d) 2, 6

(e) 10, 3

(f) 5, 2

(g) 9, 5

(h) 9, 1

(i) 2, 5

(j) 4, 2

(Question III)

(a) 3

ANSWERS

(Question I)

(a) 1, 2, 3

(b) 1, 2

(c) 1, 2

(d) 4

(e) 3

(f) 2

(g) 2

(h) 1, 2

(i) 3

(j) 3

Correct form:

(a) to his face, had yet, to than he

(b) between, broke down



On Education

"By education I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in child and man—body, mind and spirit.....I would, therefore, begin the child's education by teaching it a useful handicraft and enabling it to produce from the moment it brings its training. Thus every school can be made self-supporting, the condition being that the State takes over the manufactures of those schools."

Gandhiji held that true education of the intellect can be imbibed only through proper exercise and training of the bodily organs, i.e., hands, feet, eyes, ears etc. At the same time, he believed that the development of mind and body alone, without a simultaneous education of the heart, would turn out to be a lopsided affair. For proper and all-round development of mind, Gandhiji attached the greatest importance to the simultaneous training and development of the physical and spiritual faculties of the child which, in his opinion, constituted an indivisible whole and could not be developed independently of one another.

Gandhiji saw no point in stuffing a child's mind with all kinds of information without any effort being made to stimulate and develop it. In order to remove the imbalance, he suggested education through manual work, not as a side activity but as the prime means of intellectual training. He held that children should be taught handicrafts, not merely in a mechanical manner, but scientifically i.e., they should be taught the why and wherefore of every process. Thus, into the teaching of handicrafts, Gandhiji wanted to weave the teaching of other subjects also. In his opinion, mathematics, history,

geography and other subjects could be taught while dealing with the history, origin and economics of a particular handicraft. He was in favour of transmitting such general information by word of mouth because he thought that in this manner the student could imbibe ten times more than by just reading and writing. He wanted to defer teaching of the alphabet to a later period—when the student had learnt to distinguish "wheat from chaff" and when he had developed his or her tastes to some extent. Gandhiji realised that it was a revolutionary proposal but he recommended it because it could effect great saving of time and labour, and thus result in all-round economy.

He wanted to replace the present curricula with a system of education which included the elementary principles of sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, self-help, helping the parents etc. so that the student could, from the very beginning, inculcate the virtues of cleanliness and self-reliance and also acquire physical strength.

Gandhiji was a firm believer in the principle of free and compulsory primary education for every child but he also realised that it was not possible to carry education to crores of India's children unless we evolved a sys-

tem of finding the expenses of the teacher through the product of the manual work of his pupils. This was another reason why he laid so much stress on the teaching of handicrafts as a means of education.

Similarly, at the higher stages, he wanted to revolutionise college education to bring it in line with national necessities. He wanted professional colleges to emphasize the practical aspect of the training they imparted. Just as in the case of primary education, he opposed finding money for higher education from the general revenues of the country. He wanted different trades and industries to start, maintain and run technical institutions for the type of training and technical skill they need in their work. His reason for advocating this course of action was to eliminate waste in the field of higher education. He said, "It is my firm conviction that the vast amount of the so-called education in arts, given in our colleges is sheer waste and has resulted in unemployment among the educated classes. What is more, it has destroyed the health, both mental and physical, of the boys and girls who had the misfortune to go through the grind in our colleges."

BADMINTON

Thomas Cup Tournament: Prakash Padukone of Karnataka will lead India in the Thomas Cup Badminton Tournament at Jakarta, according to an announcement made at Patiala on April 22 by Mr Fazil Ahmed, Chairman, Selection Committee of the Badminton Association of India. The other members of the team will be: Syed Modi (Railways), Partho G a n g u l i (Tamil Nadu), Uday Pawar (Universities) and P r a d e e p Gandhe (Maharashtra). Sanjay S h a r m a (Maharashtra) and Leroy D'Sa (Railways) will be standbys.

CHESS

International Tournament: Grandmaster Aivar Giplis of the U.S.S.R. and P.M. Mohanty of Orissa aggregated a tally of 8.5 points each in the final round of the International Alekhine Memorial Chess Tournament at Calcutta on May 1. Giplis, with a superior median count, was placed first.

CRICKET

World Cup: Clive Lloyd has been recalled to lead West Indies squad which will defend the World Cricket Cup in England in June. The other members of the team will be: Faqud Bachhus, Colin C r o f t, Joel Garner, Larry Gomes, Gordon Greenidge, Desmond Haynes, Michael Holding, Alwin Kallicharan, Collis King, Malcolm Marshall, Deryck Murray, Vivian Richards and Andy Roberts. Clive Walcott will be the manager of the team.

CYCLE POLO

National Championships: Rajasthan made a clean sweep of the National Cycle Polo Championships, retaining the senior title with an impressive 10-2 win against Delhi and wresting the junior crown from Andhra Pradesh with a 4-2 victory at New Delhi on May 6.

FOOTBALL

Nagjee Memorial Tournament: J.C.T. Mills, Phagwara, won the Nagjee Memorial Football Tournament when they defeated the famous Calcutta Club, Mohammedan Sporting, by one goal to nil in the final at Kozhikode on April 19.

HOCKEY

Perth International Tournament: True to expectations, Pakistan won the Perth International Hockey Tournament at Perth on April 29 beating Australia in the final by four goals to two. Pakistan thus completed a grand triple in one year, having won the World Hockey Cup in Argentina and the inaugural Champions' Trophy at Lahore. Pakistan's supremacy was at no stage in doubt and they remained the only team in

the tournament to have an unblemished record.

The teams in the final were

Pakistan: Saleem Sherwani (Captain), Manzoor-ul-Hasan, Munwar-uz-Zaman, A k h t a r R a s u l, Mohammad Shafiq, Kalimullah, Manzoor Hussain, Hasan Sardar (Abas Safdar), Hanif Khan, Samiullah and Abdul Rashid.

Australia: Ric Charleworth (Captain), Jim Irvine, David Bell, Greg Browning, Ian Cooke, Barry Dancer, Mal Poole, Bob Proctor, Trevor Smith (Terry Smith), Terry Walsh and Steve Smith.

On their way to the final, Pakistan defeated Malaysia 9-0, Britain 5-2, Kenya 5-2 and New Zealand 5-1 in Pool 'B' matches. In the semi-final, Pakistan eliminated Holland by 5-2. Australia, who also remained unbeaten in Pool 'A', came on top after beating Canada 5-0, India 3-2, France 3-2 and Holland 4-3. In the penultimate round, they had to fight hard to score a 3-2 win over Britain.

Holland finished third beating Britain by six goals to five in extra time. India, who failed to qualify for the knock-out semi-finals, got the fifth place beating the Olympic champions, New Zealand, by five goals to three.

The 10 nations in the tournament had been divided into two groups. Their final standings were:

Group "A"							
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Australia	4	4	0	0	15	7	8
Holland	4	3	0	1	20	11	6
India	4	2	0	2	16	14	4
Canada	4	1	0	3	7	17	2
France	4	0	0	4	7	16	0
Group "B"							
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Pakistan	4	4	0	0	24	4	8
Britain	4	3	0	1	17	6	6
New Zealand	4	2	0	2	12	10	4
Kenya	4	1	0	3	4	22	2
Malaysia	4	0	0	4	2	17	0

The final placings in the tournament were: Pakistan 1, Australia 2, Holland 3, Britain 4, India 5, New Zealand 6, Canada 7, Kenya 8, Malaysia 9, France 10.

Beighton Cup: Mohun Bagan of Calcutta, the holders, and Army Service Corps of Jullundur were declared joint holders of the 84th Beighton Cup Hockey Tournament which concluded at Calcutta on May 6. In the double-leg final, each team scored two goals.

This was the 13th win for Mohun Bagan, including six times joint winners. The Jullundur team won the title for the second time. They had lifted the cup in 1976 by beating the CRPF in the final. The Army team's left winger Lal Chand Bhangareria was adjudged the best player of the tournament.

Guru Gobind Singh Gold Cup Tournament: Punjab Police, Jullundur, pipped Tata Sports Club, Bombay, 8-7, in the second round of the tie-breaker penalty strokes to lift the Guru Gobind Singh Hockey Gold Cup in its inaugural year at Nanded on April 21.

MOTORING

Kenya Safari Rally: Shekhar Mehta, son of an Indian industrialist of Kenya, won the nerve-breaking 5,000-metre 27th Kenya Safari Rally at Nairobi on April 16. Driving a Japanese Datsun car, he was accompanied by another Kenyan resident, Mike Doughty.

TABLE TENNIS

Commonwealth Championships: Hong Kong players claimed the men's and women's singles in the fifth Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships which concluded at Edinburgh on April 19.

Final results

Men's singles: Vong Lu Veng (Hong Kong) beat J. Walker (Eng-

land), 21-16, 16-21, 21-12, 21-16.

Women's singles: Hui Su Hung (Hong Kong) beat C. Knight (England), 21-13, 21-14, 21-14.

Men's doubles: S. Knapp and R. Javor (Australia) beat J. Walker and C. Wilson (England), 21-15, 21-19, 21-11.

Women's doubles: C. Knight and L. Howard (England) beat Chang Sui Ying and Hui Su Hung (Hong Kong), 21-14, 22-20, 21-19.

Hong Kong also swept the team events beating England in both the men's and women's finals by 5-2 and 3-1 respectively.

World Championships: Hungary defeated China by 5-1 to win the men's Swaythling Cup in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships which concluded at Pyongyang (North Korea) on April 30. This was Hungary's 12th win since 1927 and their first since they last won the title in 1952. Japan defeated Czechoslovakia, 5-3, to take the third place.

The women's team title for the Corbillon Cup was captured by China for the third successive year when they defeated North Korea by 3-1. Japan and the Soviet Union finished third and fourth successfully.

Teams from 60 countries participated in the championships.

Open Titles: Top-seeded Guo Yuc-hua of China had to retire with a thigh injury and the 18th seeded, Seiji Ono of Japan, became the proud holder of the men's singles title in the Open World Table Tennis Championships which concluded at Pyong Yang (N. Korea) on May 6.

The 22-year-old Ono won the first two games 25-23, 21-17, lost the third 18-21 and was leading by three points to nil in the fourth game when his opponent collapsed and conceded the match.

The women's crown was annexed by Ge Xinai (China) with a straight three games over Li Song Suk (N. Korea).

The Indian women finished at the top in Category II competition. In the overall standings they got the 18th position and thus qualified for Category I of the next championships. The men's team was placed at the 24th position.

Final results

Men's singles (ST. BRIDE VASE): Seiji Ono (Japan) beat Guo Yuc-Hua (China), 25-23, 21-17, 18-21, 3-0 (retired hurt).

Women's singles (G. GEIST PRIZE): Ge Xinai (China) beat Li Song Suk (North Korea), 21-10, 21-6, 21-19.

Women's doubles (W.J. POPE TROPHY): Zhang Li and Zhang Deying (China) beat Ge Xinai and Yan Guili (China), 21-13, 21-14, 21-16.

Men's doubles (IRAN CUP): Dragutin Surabek and Anton Supancic (Yugoslavia) beat Istvan Jonyer and Tibor Klampar (Hungary), 21-18, 22-20, 21-16.

Mixed doubles (HEYDUSEK PRIZE): Liang Geliang and Ge Xinai (China) beat Le Zheng Shi and Yan Guili (China), 21-16, 21-16, 21-15.

The next World Championships will be held at Novi Sad in Yugoslavia in 1981 and will be followed in 1983 in Japan.

TENNIS

Wedding Bells: Tennis star Chris Evert of the U.S.A. was married to fellow professional John Lloyd of Britain at Fort Laududale (Florida) on April 18. The wedding capped a romance that began nine months ago when the two met at Wimbledon.

Malaysian Open Championships: Ramesh Krishnan of India put up a great fight against Wayne Pascoe of Australia in the final of the men's singles of the Malaysian Open Tennis Championships at Kuala Lumpur on April 22. The Australian won by 6-3, 7-6, 7-5. Pascoe then teamed up with John Fitzgerald defeated the India father and son team of Ramesh and Ramanathan Krishnan, 6-3, 6-2, 6-3.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

(Contd. from page 696)

acting without the consent of the rest of the Arab world. Even while the treaty was being negotiated through the good offices of the U.S.A., militant Arab leaders and also the P.L.O. chief had warned that Sadat might have to pay for the "betrayal" of the Arab cause with his life. A call had, in fact, been issued by the PLO leader to assassinate Sadat. He has indeed taken the greatest risk by reaching a bilateral settlement with the Israelis.

In the second week of May the 42-nation World Islamic Conference suspended Egypt from the Islamic world. In fact, the chief task of the Islamic Foreign Ministers seems to be to complete the isolation of Egypt—a sort of social boycott to teach it a lesson for defying Arab opinion.

Earlier, the Arab League summit, held at Baghdad in March, had led to the break-off of diplomatic relations between Egypt and other Arab countries, barring Sudan and Oman. Egypt has also been suspended from all Arab organizations, including the Arab Fund, the Arab Bank and the Arab oil producers' organisation. Even the moderates among the Arabs are lining up with the diehards in a move designed to oust President Sadat from Egypt.

Palestine is a highly emotive and sensitive issue for the Arabs and Egypt is accused of having betrayed the Palestinians, although this is an uncharitable interpretation of the signing of the treaty. However, Egypt may soon have to face acts of terrorism.

A financial boycott has also been started. Saudi Arabia and Morocco have suspended all financial dealings; so Egypt is

not to get any financial assistance from its chief former ally, Saudi Arabia, which has endless petro-dollars.

President Sadat accused Saudi Arabia on May 11 of having paid off other Arab countries to break relations with Egypt in a bid to become a leader of the Arab world. Morocco was also accused of adopting "cheap tactics". Sadat said he was not afraid of them and was determined to face the boycott courageously.

On May 12 Kuwait announced its intention to withdraw one billion dollars of its deposits in Cairo banks; evidently as a retaliatory move. But Western nations, especially the U.S.A., have indicated their desire to make up Egypt's financial losses. In fact, the U.S.A. has already offered liberal economic and arms aid to Egypt whom it regards as its own protégé even while Russia frets and fumes at having suffered a diplomatic rebuff in West Asia.

Energy Crisis Ahead

While many countries, especially the highly industrialised ones, have been facing the problem of energy resources and fearing a worsening of the situation as the years pass, the Oil Producing and Exporting Countries (OPEC) itself warned the world on May 10 that unless additional resources were found, there would be global energy crisis by the end of the next decade (the end of the 1980s).

At present the oil-producing countries are not facing any problem of supply for their own domestic requirements, but the Secretary-General of the Organisation disclosed at Manila that their present consumption

(just over a million barrels a day in 1978) might exceed eight million barrels a day in the coming years, thereby putting a strong downward pressure on exports despite the large income such exports brings in view of the enhanced prices.

The OPEC has asked other countries to speed up the development and supply of new resources of energy because OPEC's own production might not be sufficient to meet the demand. The oil producers' production is, in fact, likely to decrease because of the depleted stocks and the policy of conservation of supplies.

Spokesmen of the oil producers have expressed their willingness to discuss the oil and energy problems with the rest of the world, provided there is a willingness also to discuss, alongside, questions of technology, raw materials and development which were of much importance to the Third World as a whole. Oil-producing countries have all along held the view that the problems of energy could be considered only as an integral part of all other problems which could not be isolated. This would mean that the prices which the oil producers have to pay for manufactured goods supplied by the industrialised countries would also be discussed because the high prices they have to pay have eroded the gains of OPEC countries expected through the sale of their "black gold"—crude oil wealth. This has been the main reason for the ostensible justification for frequent enhancements in oil prices made by OPEC since 1973.

Current General Knowledge

Abbreviations
Awards
Constitution
Persons
Places
Space Research
Miscellany

ABBREVIATIONS

N.R.S.A.: National Remote Sensing Agency.

U.A.N.C.: United African National Council.

Z.A.N.U.: Zimbabwe African National Union.

Z.U.P.O.: Zimbabwe United People's Organisation.

AWARDS

26th National Film Festival Awards

Best Actress: Sharda, for her role in the Telugu film *Nimajjanam*. This is the third time she has won this award.

Best Actor: Arun Mukherjee, for the role of a village simpleton who finds himself ill at ease in a city in Mrinal Sen's film *Parashuram*.

Best Child Actor: Kanchan De Biswas for his "sheer" presence in Tarun Mazumdar's film *Ganadevata*.

Best Director: G. Arvindan for his film *Thamp* (Malayalam).

Best Music Director: Jaidev.

Best female playback singer: Chhaya Ganguli.

Best male playback singer: "Shimoga" Subhana Kadu Kudre.

Best National Feature Film: Nil.

Best Hindi Feature Film: shared by Bimal Dutt for "Kasturi" and Shashi Kapoor for "Junoon".

Best Feature Film with mass appeal, wholesome entertainment and aesthetic value: Gana-

devata.

Best feature film on national integration: Grahna.

Dada Saheb Phalke Award: R.C. Boral, music director. This award is given for "outstanding contribution to the cause of Indian cinema."

Rabindra Award

Prof G.H. Forbes, a distinguished American scholar and writer, has been awarded the "Rabindra Award" for 1978 for her book "Positivism in Bengal".

The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 and was presented on May 9, the birthday of Rabindra Nath Tagore.

Besides Prof Forbes, poet Arun Mitra and Mr Shibakali Bhattacharya have been awarded the Rabindra Award for their books on Bengali poems and research in Ayurveda, respectively.

Lenin Peace Prize

U.S. Black activist Angela Davis and former Indian Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Mr K.P.S. Menon, have been awarded the Lenin Peace Prize. The awards were presented to them on May 1.

Angela Davis is a professor in California. She is frequently cited in the Soviet press as a "freedom fighter" for Blacks and a victim of U.S. political oppression.

K.P.S. Menon is cited to have vigorously upheld the ideals of peace and security in Asia and in the whole world in his extensive public activities.

Kasturi Ranga Award

Miss Kana R. Ranadive, until recently professor of economics in Bombay University, has been chosen for the first Kasturi Ranga memorial national award.

The award carrying a monthly stipend of Rs. 2,500 was instituted on the occasion of the centenary of the leading Madras daily, *The Hindu*, last September in honour of Mr Kasturi Ranga Iyenger, who was its editor from 1905 to 1923.

The objective of the award is "to encourage in a small but tangible way free intellectual inquiry and research on a topic of human and national relevance."

Ghalib Awards

The Ghalib Awards for 1976 and 1977 were presented by Mr Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India, on April 20, 1979.

For 1976: Prof Nazir Ahmed (for research and criticism) Malik Ram (prose); Sikandar Ali Wajid (poetry) and Kartar Singh Duggal (drama).

For 1977: The awards for 1977 have gone to: Prof Zoe Ansari, Gopal Mittal, Bismil Saeedi and Habib Tanvir.

Ghalib Awards are given for extending all facilities to Urdu to develop like other sister languages in the country.

Pulitzer Prize

The 1979 Pulitzer Prize for fiction has been won by John Cheever for "the Stories of John Cheever", a collection of 61 stories written since 1945.

CONSTITUTION

The Constitution (44th Amendment) Act, 1979 : For detailed notes, refer under "Current National Affairs" within.

PERSONS

Thatcher, M r s Margaret: Leader of the Conservative Party (Tories) who took over as Prime Minister of Britain on April 4, is the first woman Prime Minister in the history of Britain and the Western Industrialised world.

She is currently the world's only woman Prime Minister. Only three other women have headed Governments—Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike (Sri Lanka), Mrs Golda Meir (Israel) and Mrs Indira Gandhi (India).

Muzorewa, Bishop A b e l: He is Rhodesia's first Black Prime Minister. He was elected on April 24, 1979 when his party, the United African National Council (U.A.N.C.), won 51 seats in the 100-seat Parliament.

PLACES

Antichak: It is a village in Bhagalpur district on the banks of Ganga. The archaeologists have unearthed a unique engineering feat of "forced draft ventilation" to keep a place cool, adopted in the eight century A.D.

It is believed to be the possible site of the ancient Vikramashila University—an international seat of learning.

The cooling device has been discovered on the southern side of the rectangular monastery which on one side had water reservoir with sloping channels leading to a portion of the monastery on the other side. "These channels carried the air which used to get cooled after getting into contact with water." These channels, it is believed, led to the cell of the monastery where the delicate manuscripts were kept.

It is for the first time that such a thing has been excavated anywhere.

Apart from this scientific device, high quality materials, burnt brick and stone pillars were used for the construction of the monastery with accuracy about everything.

SPACE RESEARCH

SEO (Satellite for Earth Observation): India's Satellite for Earth Observations is now expected to be launched in the second quarter of this year.

The project's main objectives are earth observation experiments with an orbiting spacecraft to get useful information in meteorology, hydrology and oceanography and to evolve methods for retrieval and processing of data using appropriate ground systems and generation of user-oriented data.

The project is said to be a fore-runner to future Indian application-oriented remote sensing satellites.

Aryabhata: India's first satellite, Aryabhata, completed four years of its orbit on April 19, 1979. The technological systems on board the satellite were functioning and the ground station was receiving signals from the satellite as reported officially on April 18.

MISCELLANY

"Microfiche camera": The National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) at Secunderabad has developed a "microfiche camera" to store the remotely sensed data, obtained for the survey of natural resources.

The microfiche camera makes it possible to store a large amount of technical and business information in the form of photographs of greatly reduced size.

Microfiche is a recent development in the reprographic

communication technology. It is an efficient and practical way of handling large amount of information. Microfiche is a flat sheet of film with a number of micro images on it.

Objective-Type Tests General Studies

(Contd. from page 725)

(c) sported beards and whiskers.

60. Rajaraja I, the Great (985-1014 A.D.) was the king of:

- (a) Chola Dynasty
- (b) Chalukya Dynasty
- (c) Vardhana Dynasty

ANSWERS

(Current Affairs)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (b) |
| 3. (b), (c) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (a) | |
| 6. (b), (d), (f), (g) | |
| 7. (a), (c), (d), (f) | |
| 8. (c) | 9. (c) |
| 10. (a) | 11. (b) |
| 12. (d) | 13. (c) |
| 14. (b), (c) | 15. (a) |
| 16. (b) | 17. (c) |
| 18. (c) | 19. (b) |
| 20. (a), (d) | 21. (a) |
| 22. (d) | |

(Geography)

- | | |
|---------|--------------|
| 23. (a) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (c) | 26. (c) |
| 27. (a) | 28. (b) |
| 29. (b) | 30. (a), (e) |
| 31. (a) | 32. (b) |
| 33. (c) | 34. (c) |
| 35. (a) | 36. (a) |
| 37. (d) | 38. (d) |
| 39. (a) | 40. (d) |
| 41. (c) | 42. (b) |
| 43. (a) | 44. (a) |

(History)

- | | |
|--------------|---------|
| 45. (a) | 46. (b) |
| 47. (c) | 48. (c) |
| 49. (c) | 50. (b) |
| 51. (d) | 52. (b) |
| 53. (c) | 54. (c) |
| 55. (a) | 56. (b) |
| 57. (a) | 58. (c) |
| 59. (a), (c) | 60. (a) |

Pakistan's Nuclear and Islamic Bomb

(Contd. from page 698)

and none of the nuclear giants is inclined to assist Pakistan to develop nuclear capability. One report discloses that in May, 1978, the U.S. administration disallowed the export of one lb of plutonium which Pakistan needed for research purposes.

Thus Pakistan has several technical handicaps in developing nuclear technology, but is still determined to become a nuclear power. With Libya's

money, uranium from the black market and utilisation of its own and its friends' experts, Pakistan could pose a danger, though not for long. The only firm source of nuclear technology and equipment can be China, but with the new realignment of powers China is not likely to oblige Pakistan; rather, China would try to keep Pakistan dependent upon itself for nuclear armaments.

Abolish or Reform the Examination System

(Contd. from page 702)

time-limit is sufficiently large (say, at the rate of one question per minute) and the passing grade is also very high (say 60 or 70 per cent). The "Open-book" system of examination has been tried with a view to eliminating cheating completely. But this system rules out the testing of traditional capabilities of memory and power of expression of a candidate. It is a test of his judgement. The "question bank" reform, in a way, legitimises guess papers as it covers practically the entire

syllabus. The student can take the examination as and when ready. The clamour for the postponement of the examinations so often raised would be "stilled". No report on the working of this system of examination is available.

Conclusion: Of these all, the internal assessment compounded with semester system appears to be quite sound. Its success depends on improvements in organisation and teaching as much as on learning.

Youth Power in Modern India

(Contd. from page 706)

problems of youth with the nation's development, a time-bound mass education for achieving cent per cent literacy, higher allocation of resources for the educational sector (it has been suggested that it should be enhanced from 3 to 10 per cent). We have at present 100 million illiterates in the age group 15-35 years and the government is determined to provide education to them in the next five years. The communication gap between the youth and the policy-makers must be bridged so that their credibility is enhanced. Self-employment schemes should be launched. The universities,

colleges and schools must re-awaken themselves to newer responsibilities of modernising the society. Politicisation of the youth power by political charlatans must be eschewed and a code of conduct adopted for the purpose.

Conclusion: There has been a good deal of talk of generation, conservation and utilization of power (electricity, coal and solar energy). But the youth power, in abundance, is going waste. The regrettable fact is that the youth, the real architects of modern India, are not sufficiently organised to render useful service to the community.

ECONOMIC SCENE

(Contd. from page 708)

on government contributions. It is only in March last that the prolonged North-South dialogue at Geneva yielded an agreement on the basic elements of a \$ 750 million fund.

In terms of this agreement, the rich-poor nations' representatives tentatively resolved that the fund should provide the "first window" of \$ 400 million for financing purchases of commodity buffer stocks. It also envisaged a "second window" of \$ 350 million for research and development and other projects to help price stabilisation. It was decided that the participating commodity associations shall deposit with the fund one-third of their maximum financial requirements to maintain a buffer stock of a jointly agreed size.

This agreement has been appraised by some as a "significant breakthrough" in the North-South relations. Others have dubbed it as an "exaggerated" assessment. It is alleged that the agreement should not be construed as symbolic of the Western nations' willingness to recognise the validity of the third world's demand for eliminating price fluctuations. At best the agreement keeps up the momentum of small steps such as these.

The fund may come into being not before 1980-81 for, the details to be worked out may take quite long. For instance, the compromise on the sharing of the voting power is not acceptable to big-wigs, like U.S.A.

A big gain, however, from the Geneva agreement is that the Manila meet of UNCTAD will be able to direct its deliberations on areas other than commodity prices.

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of Selected Words used in this issue)

affront: to meet face to face; to confront; to throw oneself in the way of; to insult to one's face—a contemptuous treatment; an open insult; indignity.

anachronism: an error assigning a thing to an earlier or (less strictly) to a later age than it belongs to; anything out of keeping with chronology.

anomaly: irregularity; deviation from rule.

blatant: clamorous; egregiously vulgar; (loosely) flagrant.

bragging: a boast or boasting; a thing one boasts of or is proud of.

camouflage: any device for deceiving an adversary; to deceive, to counterfeit; to disguise.

concomitant: accompanying; conjoined—the one who or that which accompanies.

consonance: a state of agreement; agreement or unison of sounds; a combination of notes which can sound together without the harshness produced by beats; concord.

covenant: a mutual agreement; the writing containing the agreement.

crazy: frail; cracked; insane; demented; fantastically composed of irregular pieces.

delude: to play or impose upon to deceive.

denizen: an inhabitant (human or animal); one admitted to the rights of a citizen.

depravity: a vitiated or corrupt state of moral character; extreme wickedness; corruption; the hereditary tendency of man towards sin; original sin.

deterrent: serving to hinder or prevent.

disconcert: to throw into confusion; to disturb; to frustrate; to defeat; to put out of countenance.

dogmatic: pertaining to a principle or tenet; asserting a thing as if it were a principle or tenet; asserting positively; overbearing.

exotic: introduced from a foreign country; alien; foreign looking; outlandish; anything of foreign origin.

fatalist: one who believes in the doctrine that all events are subject to fate, and happen by unavoidable necessity.

send: to ward off; to shut out;

to depend—to offer a resistance; to provide.

fraternity: the state of being brethren; a brotherhood; a society formed on a principle of brotherhood; any set of people with something in common.

gamut: the full extent of anything.

glibberish: rapid; gabbling talk; unmeaning words.

gorgeous: splendid; magnificent.

holocaust: a sacrifice in which the whole of the victim was burnt; a huge slaughter or destruction of life.

holster: a long round pillow or cushion; anything resembling it in form or use, esp. any piece of mechanism affording a support against pressure.

hovel: a small or wretched dwelling; a shed, a framework for a corn-stack.

inalienable: not capable of being transferred or removed.

iniquitous: unjust; scandalously unreasonable; wicked.

insolence: overhearing; insulting, rude.

irony: the Socratic method of discussion by professing ignorance; conveyance of meaning by words whose literal meaning is the opposite; a situation of utterance that has a significance unperceived at the time or by the person involved; a condition in which one seems to be mocked by fate or the facts.

itinerary: travelling; relating to roads or journeys—a plan or record of a journey.

kow-tow: the Chinese ceremony of prostration.

leviathan: a huge sea monster; anything of huge size esp. a ship or a man.

limbo: any unsatisfactory place of consignment or oblivion, prison.

lute: a straight edge for scraping off excess of clay in a brick mould; old stringed instrument shaped like half a pear; clay, cement or other material used as a protective covering; an airtight stopping, or the like; a rubber packing ring for a jar.

manacle: a handcuff.

murky: dark; obscure; gloomy.
nefarious: extremely wicked; villainous.

odium: hatred; offensiveness; blame; quality of provoking hate.

pacifist: one who is opposed to war, or believes all war to be wrong.

perpetrate: to execute or commit.

petulant: showing peevish impatience, irritation, or caprice.

populist: advocating public ownership of public services.

procrastinate: to put off till some future time; to defer.

protege: one under the protection or patronage of another; a pupil; a ward.

prowl: to keep moving about as if in search of something; to rove in search of prey or plunder.

proxy: the agency of one who acts for another; one who acts or votes for another, the writing by which he is authorised to do so, a substitute.

rhetoric: the theory and practice of eloquence, whether spoken or written; the whole art of using language so as to persuade others; the art of literary expression, esp. in prose; false, showy, artificial or declamatory expression.

scepticism: that condition in which the mind is before it has arrived at conclusive opinions; doubt; the doctrine that no facts can be certainly known; agnosticism; sceptical attitude towards Christianity; general disposition to doubt.

sordid: dirty; squalid; mean; meanly avaricious; mercenary; of low or unworthy ideals.

tyranny: absolute or illegally established power; the government or authority of a tyrant; absolute power cruelly administered; oppression.

vestige: a footprint; a trace; a surviving trace of what has almost disappeared; a reduced and functionless structure representing what was once useful and developed.

wallow: to roll about in mud etc., as an animal does (implying enjoyment), to flounder.

Appointments Etc.

Appointments Etc.

Sultan Ahmad Shah: Elected King of Malaysia.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: Elected Prime Minister of U.K.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa: Elected Prime Minister of Rhodesia.

B.B. Lyngdoh: Elected Chief Minister of Meghalaya.

Ram Sunder Das: Elected Chief Minister of Bihar.

Brig Thempunga Sailo: Elected Chief Minister of Mizoram.

Tomas Vaquez Flores: Appointed Ambassador of Chile in India.

Thakur Sen Negi: Elected Speaker of Himachal Pradesh.

Dr Ibrahim Yazoli: Appointed Foreign Minister of Iran.

Distinguished Visitors

Ahmed Obeid al-Fadhli: Trade and Supplies Minister of the Government of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Dr Mana Saeed Al-Otaiba: Petroleum Minister of the United Arab Emirates.

Salim Yassin: Transport Minister of Syria.

Mohammad Liassine: Industry Minister of Algeria.

E.L.A. Wijntum: President of Parliament of Surinam.

Josip Vrhovec: Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia.

Hosny Mubarak: Vice-President of Egypt.

Abdul Mouin Khan: Food Minister of Bangladesh.

Madame Nguyen Thi Binh: Education Minister of Vietnam. Resigned

Karpoori Thakur: Chief Minister of Bihar.

Mrs Shashikala Kakodkar: Chief Minister of Goa.

Died

Raja Manendra Pratap: A veteran freedom fighter.

Dr Abhuri Ramakrishna Rao: A noted Telugu litterateur.

Gudipali Venkatachalam: A well-known Telugu writer.

to pave the way for fresh elections.

29—The People's Conference returns to power in Mizoram securing an absolute majority of 16 in the mid-term elections to the 30-member Assembly.

30—President Sanjiva Reddy gives his assent to the Constitution (45th Amendment) Bill, renumbered as the Constitution (44th Amendment) Act.

MAY

4—Conservative Party (Tories) swept to power in U.K. Mrs Margaret Thatcher becomes the first woman Prime Minister in the history of Britain. She is currently the world's only woman Prime Minister.

—Mr D.D. Pugh's Meghalaya Ministry defeated by a solitary vote in the Assembly.

7—The new 13-member Meghalaya ministry, headed by Mr B.B. Lyngdoh, sworn in.

—Special Courts Bill cleared. Lok Sabha accepts four amendments.

—Prime Minister Morarji Desai makes it clear that India's stand on nuclear weapons will not change even if Pakistan explodes an atomic bomb.

8—The United States and the Soviet Union reach agreement in general on a new Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT-2) Treaty.

—A five-member People's Conference Ministry, headed by the Chief Minister Brig Thempunga Sailo, assumes office in Mizoram ending the five-month-old President's rule in the Union Territory.

9—The Grover Commission, set up to enquire into the charges of favouritism and misuse of power against the Karnataka Chief Minister, Mr Devraj Urs and some of his Ministerial colleagues, indicts Mr Urs and holds that eight allegations have been conclusively established against him and some of his colleagues.

12—Police agitation spreads in nine of the 12 districts in Punjab and in the Union Territory of Chandigarh. B.S.F. moves in to control the situation.

—Cyclone devastates Nellore town in Andhra Pradesh.

—Aligarh Muslim University closed following incidents of violence and arson in and around the campus

EVENTS

APRIL

17—Arab oil exporters ban the sale of Arab oil to Egypt and also suspended it from their organisation for signing a peace treaty with Israel.

—Ten Cabinet Ministers, three Ministers of State and a Parliamentary Secretary resign from the Bihar Government creating an unprecedented crisis.

19—Karpoori Thakur, Chief Minister of Bihar, tenders his resignation following his failure to win the confidence vote from the Janata Legislature Party.

21—Ram Sunder Das sworn in as Chief Minister of Bihar.

22—Acharya Vinoba Bhave begins his fast following the failure of

his efforts to get cow slaughter totally banned in West Bengal and Kerala.

25—The External Affairs Minister, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, fails in his bid to get President Carter and the U.S. Congress to lift a ban on providing fuel for Tarapur nuclear power plant after 1980.

—Egypt-Israel peace treaty comes into force.

26—The Bhoodan leader, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, terminates his five-day-old fast.

28—The Union Territory of Goa placed under President's rule for the first time since it came into existence 16 years ago and the 30-member Assembly dissolved

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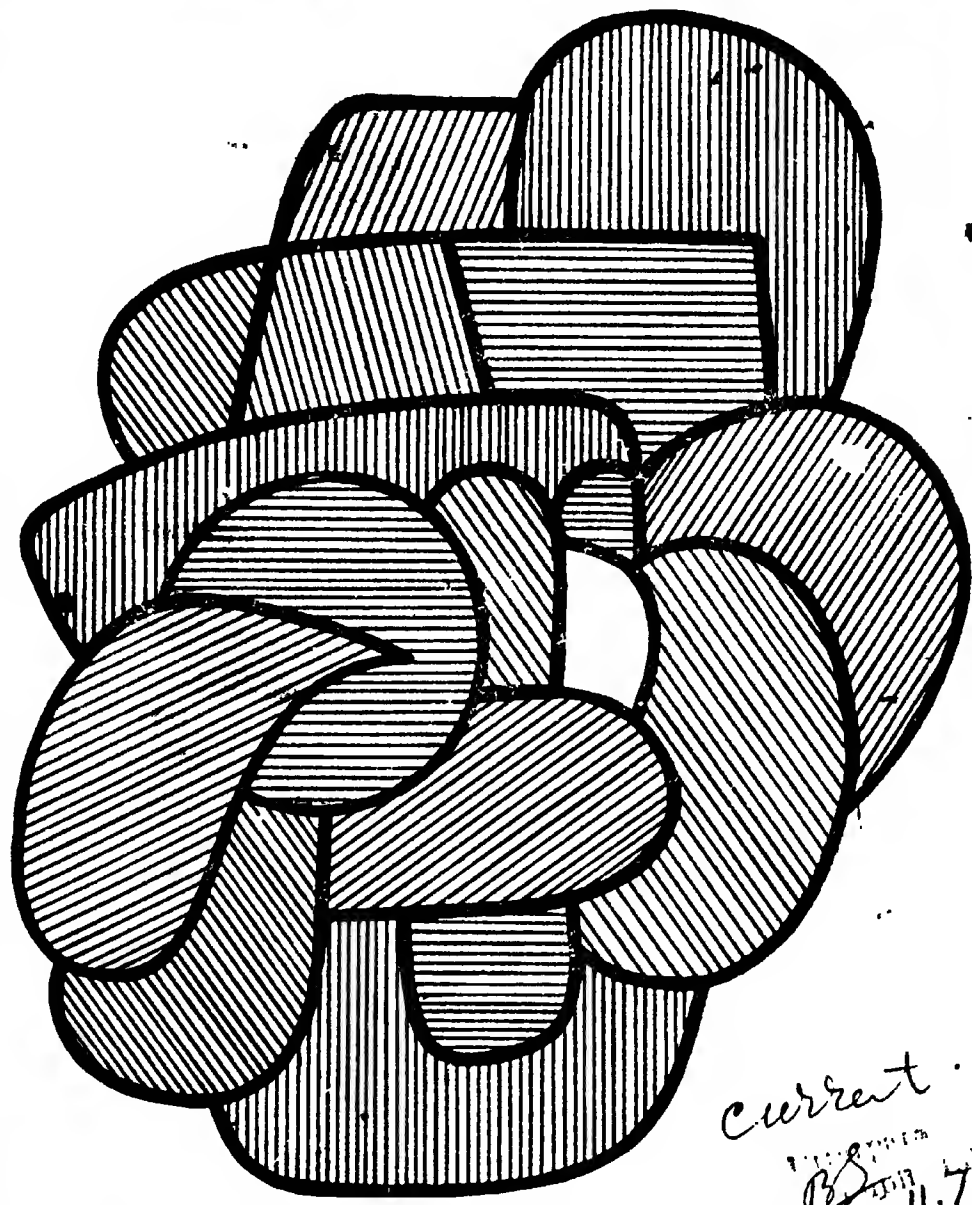
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Letter from the Editor

ANNUAL NUMBER

Dear Readers,

With this issue we complete twenty years of eminently useful service to you. As we step in the twenty-first year, we legitimately feel proud of our achievement. It also makes us conscious of our increased responsibility.

*Next month we shall be presenting to you the Annual Number of the **Competition Master**. It will contain: (1) Comprehensive Notes on National and International Affairs of importance that have occurred during the past twelve months; (2) Round-up of Current General Knowledge; (3) Round-up of important Sports events; (4) Sample Objective or Multiple Choice Answer-Type Questions; and (5) Subject Index to the Twentieth Volume of the CM.*

*The **Subject-Index** to the Twentieth Volume of the **Competition Master** (August 1978 to July 1979) will give you a bird's eye-view of the wide-range of our coverage.*

Our Annual Numbers invariably command big response and the next one, we feel sure, will prove even more useful.

Wishing you the best of luck.

Yours sincerely,

Editor

A movement on the rocks

EIGHTY-EIGHT Foreign Ministers of non-aligned countries out of the total Third World strength of 119 met in Colombo early in June with serious apprehensions about the future of what once was described as "the world's most sought after international club". Their apprehensions were well founded, and by the time they dispersed the fissures among them and the subtle Big-Power pulls and pressures that have caused a split in the movement became more apparent than ever before. The united approach that once characterised the movement and made it a force to reckon with has gone, and so also the desire to function as a bloc in the common interest of all the member-countries. With most of the non-aligned countries tied to one Big Power or another with apron-strings to secure economic gains (some call it blackmail), the very basis of non-alignment has been eroded. The movement now presents a truly pathetic sight, much to the delight of the major Powers.

India and Yugoslavia, who were among the original founders of the movement, have been earnestly striving to save the non-aligned club from breaking up, without much success. Egypt, the third founder, is itself in serious trouble, with the majority of Arab countries determined to expel it from the club for signing a peace treaty with Israel—an act which does not violate in the least the principle of co-existence which forms the basis of the movement. Is it not true that a regional grouping has ganged up against a member to wreak vengeance for bypassing them in entering into a bilateral deal? Mr Morarji Desai's firm stand on the Arabs' insistent demand for the expulsion of Egypt is in full accord with the basic principles of the non-aligned movement. It is surprising that no other Prime Minister of a non-aligned country has displayed such courage and warned the angry Arabs about their ill-conceived move.

The Colombo conference of the Non-aligned Bureau, confronted as it was with issues that threatened to cripple it, has, after prolonged deliberations, passed the buck to the Havana summit which will have to tackle the thorny issues of Egypt and Kampuchea. The non-

aligned club may get split down in the middle in the process. At present, at any rate, no solution is in sight. So, like the Colombo conference, the Havana summit may also turn out to be an abortive exercise; not only that, it may even herald the beginning of the end of non-alignment, which would indeed be a pity.

At present nothing seems to be right with the non-aligned movement. Apart from the fact that the Big Powers have again started their game of winning proteges and enlarging their spheres of influence in the old style, the Havana summit is to be held in a country (*Cuba*) which has become notorious as Moscow's active wing and a disruptionist of established regimes opposed to Communism. Several countries, in fact, no longer regard Cuba as a truly non-aligned country; some even describe it as the very antithesis of impartiality and peaceful co-existence.

The Big Powers seem to have cut up the world into their own camps, and the reported "gentlemen's understanding" between them excludes the possibility of a sharp conflict of interests, so well delineated are the spheres of each. Most of the camp followers have jumped on the bandwagon of one or the other giant, directly or indirectly, and the world is back to square one. Take the Kampuchea case, for instance. The Pol Pot regime, which was effectively ousted by Vietnam with the assistance of local Cambodian rebels, was allowed to be seated at the Colombo Conference as an observer, obviously at China's persuasion. This is as big a fraud on truth and reality as the fiction of Formosa (*Taiwan*) representing the mighty China at the U.N. was for many years—at the U.S.A.'s insistence to serve its own global strategy. Thus, fiction, tainted motives and falsehood have crept into non-alignment, and no movement can survive long if such insidious influences affect it. Different centres of power have emerged, and non-alignment appears to be wholly out of place in the new shape of things. Which is a pity, for in it lay the hopes of peace, stability and a safe future for even the smallest country.

Current National Affairs

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India's Second Satellite

On June 7, a little over four years after the distinctly successful launching of "Aryabhata" (in April 1975) India put into orbit her second satellite, named after another eminent son of India—the great astronomer "Bhaskara". The 444 kg. satellite was designed, fabricated and constructed entirely in India by Indian scientists, the actual launching was done from a Soviet Cosmodrome and by a Soviet rocket. The Satellite, which is designed to make earth observation experiments, is circling the earth every 95.2 minutes at an inclination of 50.7 degrees to the equator.

"Bhaskara" is making a near circular path with apogee (farthest distance from the earth) of 557 km. and a perigee (nearest distance from the earth) of 512 km. Radio-telemetry commands are sent to the satellite from the ground stations, and the sub-system on board "Bhaskara" will be brought into operation in a phased manner.

The operations include spinning the satellite and orienting the spin axis to facilitate acquisition of data over India by the television cameras on board the satellite.

The experimental satellite, built by the Indian Space Research Organisation contains sophisticated instruments for carrying out remote-sensing experiments over India, using TV camera and micro-wave radiometers.

"Bhaskara's" experiments

will be useful in the field of forestry, hydrology, snow cover and snow melt, geology, soils, land use and ocean surface studies. About 20 user agencies are involved in experiments for the use of data from the satellite.

The satellite is powered by the solar cells for normal operations and nickel-cadmium batteries for eclipse operations and for peak loads. Fourteen Indian organisations and over 20 Soviet agencies were behind the building and launching of the satellite.

The launching was carried out under an agreement between the USSR Academy of Science and the Indian Space Research Organisation signed in 1975.

The new satellite will make a great contribution in tackling many complex problems of Indian economy.

Prof Satish Dhawan, who was in command of the launching of the operations, expressed the hope that many new ventures in Indo-Soviet space co-operation would follow in the near future.

The second satellite carries two TV cameras, and three super-high frequency radiometers. The television cameras have an earth coverage of 325 km. Studies of the information obtained with the help of these cameras as also the bipolar spectral characteristics will help determine the difference between various soils, water and land objects, difference of temperatures in large tracts of

forests and in irrigated and non-irrigated zones.

The studies will also help in ascertaining snow and cloud covers which have relevance to floods and flood warning. The dual frequency radiometers will provide data for defining the content of water vapour in the atmosphere and the temperature of sea surfaces—two important meteorological parameters. These data will be received and processed only in India.

The net outcome of the "Aryabhata" programme was that India made a major breakthrough in satellite technology by demonstrating her capability to design, fabricate, test and launch a totally spaceworthy system. The necessary ground-based infrastructure for this purpose had been established. It includes special laboratories for further fabrication of satellite and ground stations for telemetry reception, tele-command transmission and tracking of the satellite.

The Indian Space Programme got under way when a rocket launching station was set up at Thumba (near Trivandrum) in 1962. Since then a large number of sounding rockets have been launched from this site for the exploration of the upper atmosphere, ionosphere and meteorology.

Mr Desai's visit to Russia

India's relations with the Soviet Union were further strengthened by Mr Morarji Desai's four-day visit to that country beginning from June 10, as part of his East European tour which ended on June 22. Several agreements were signed, mostly for economic and technical collaboration.

On arrival at Tashkent on June 10, Mr Desai, invoking the spirit of Tashkent of harmony and conciliation, declared

that India had no intention whatever to dominate the region and that it stood committed to peace and equitable relations among the various countries.

The fifth meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission was held in the second week of June and a protocol was signed for setting up the Vishakhapatnam steel plant, by Mr Desai and Mr Brezhnev on June 12. Several other agreements for co-operation in scientific and technical spheres were also signed by Mr Desai. Russia agreed to give a Rs. 2,500-crore credit for the steel plant and also to give five additional credits for later expansion of the new plant.

The top-level talks between Mr Desai and Mr Brezhnev ended on June 12. Both countries agreed that there should be no outside interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The joint statement incorporated the results of the talks which also covered the situation in South-East Asia and other regions.

Mr Kosygin squarely blamed Pakistan for encouraging rebels who are creating trouble in Afghanistan; but Mr Desai stated at a press conference that both countries were accusing each other. India's interest was in ensuring peace. He reiterated India's stand that the only way to ensure peace in the Asian region, and elsewhere, was to see that there was no interference by any country in the internal affairs of another.

Mr Kosygin declared soon afterwards that Russia would be protecting Afghanistan. He accused Pakistan of having interrupted all communication links between India and Afghanistan and he expressed the hope that New Delhi would help stabilise the situation in South Asia by further developing its diplomatic relations with Kabul.

Another report stated that after the talks with the Soviet

leaders Mr Desai announced that China and the Soviet Union had agreed to start talks to normalise their relations.

Generous aid for India

Following the World Bank's highly favourable report on the progress and urgent needs of the Indian economy, and the Government of India's persistent efforts to secure more foreign economic assistance to maintain the tempo of progress registered in recent years, the Aid India Consortium, meeting in Paris on June 7 and 8, decided to pledge to this country a record quantum of development aid amounting to 3 billion dollars for the year 1979-80. Besides, Britain and Canada, where there has been a change of Government, may make commitments later in the year.

Thus the aid outlook for this country is bright, and the Government is happy over what it calls an achievement and what amounts to a due recognition of the country's short-term and long-term requirements. The new aid quantum represents an increase of 22 per cent over last year's figure of 2.4 billion dollars. The general expectation was that last year's level would be maintained.

Significantly, the U.S.A. has enhanced its aid quota by 50 per cent and Japan and the European Economic Community have also taken a sympathetic view and offered liberal amounts.

There was a consensus at the Paris meeting that foreign aid on concessional terms continues to be important for supporting India's development efforts. It was generally felt that the large foreign exchange reserves and the ample food reserves need not be taken as counter-factors to reduce aid. These reserves could not be permanent and might be sharp-

ly eroded by one or two bad harvests and the increasing expenditure on imports and the uncertainty of the earnings from exports.

However, certain members and speakers at the Paris session warned the Government of India against the dampening effect which industrial bottlenecks might have on overall economic expansion. For instance, investment was being affected by the shortages of power, steel and transport. Adequate investment was needed for key areas, and capacity utilisation should be increased in others. Implementation of the Sixth-Plan targets needed further mobilisation of resources and the recent inflation was a dangerous sign for Indian economy.

Functioning of Multinationals

Fresh light on the working of multinational firms operating in India, and on the fact that they utilise about Rs. 2,200 million of this country's foreign exchange reserves annually, is thrown by an expert study conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration recently.

It has been found that at one stage the multinational concerns spent 85.7% of their foreign exchange utilisation for importing raw materials from their parent concerns abroad at exceptionally high prices.

About 90% of the total assets of these concerns were in the field of processing and manufacturing. Their net assets have been growing at a "fast pace". In 1976 the total assets of 171 subsidiaries stood at nearly Rs. 16267.7 million as against Rs. 8,967.7 million of 243 subsidiaries in 1966.

The products of multinationals are mainly aimed at "catching" a large section of the urban upper income groups of

society. Their products include consumer goods which form a major part of the budget of an upper class Indian family.

There are instances when multinationals have shown their headquarters located in countries with liberal tax laws. "This enables them to evade taxes and remit funds to their parent concerns located elsewhere."

The equity dilution strategy as contemplated under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) ensures that with Indians holding 60% of the shares, the management of the companies could be taken over when the majority shareholders decide to do so. The Act is also supposed to keep a check on the continuous drain on the limited foreign exchange resources.

In spite of holding only 40 per cent of the shares, some of the multinational concerns have been allowed to appoint their own Managing Directors at a "phenomenally high salary and other benefit".

The scheme of allocation of shares by the multinationals is such that Indian shareholders would be so widely dispersed that they would never be able to unite against the foreign management to fight for their rights.

Many of the multinational concerns are not covered by the MRTP Act, though the assets of the subsidiaries and their parent concerns located abroad are much more than the MRTP stipulation of Rs. 200 million. Because of the differences in status and powers, the Indian executives would naturally work in an atmosphere which promotes inferiority and insecurity.

Bill for A.I.R.-T.V. Autonomy

Acting on the recommendations of the B.G. Verghese Committee which examined the ques-

tion of autonomy to All India Radio and Doordarshan (TV), the Government of India introduced a Bill in Parliament towards the close of the Budget session. The Bill, now before a Select Committee, became a subject of controversy because the autonomy proposal has been watered down and certain other modifications have also been made in the Verghese proposals.

The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Mr L.K. Advani, claimed on June 2 that the Prasar Bharati Bill was a "complete fulfilment of the Janata Party's pledge to the people" in respect of autonomy for All India Radio. Mr Advani said the Bill did not go all the way the Verghese Committee wanted to, but "any criticism that the Janata Party has gone back on its promise is totally incorrect and has no relation to facts. The Janata Party had committed itself to convert A.I.R. into an autonomous corporation as had been earlier recommended by the Chanda Committee but rejected by Mrs Gandhi's Government.

The Verghese Committee has conceived "not just an autonomous corporation but an independent Constitutional status for A.I.R. The Government was unable to accept this independent entity concept, but so far as the concept of the autonomy of A.I.R. is concerned, it has gone far beyond the Chanda Committee's recommendations.

The Chanda Committee had favoured absolute authority being given to Government in the nomination and removal of Directors of the Board, the Prasar Bharati Bill give the Government authority to consult the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha for nomination of the Board.

Removal of the Chairman has been put beyond the pale of

executive authority by making it obligatory to secure the approval of the Supreme Court.

This is a matter debated over and over again even in the U.K. and it has uniformly been held that to ensure the broadcasting set-up's accountability to Parliament the Government's authority to nominate or remove the directors should be retained. All that the British Government was willing to concede in the White Papers issued after the Annan Committee report was that if the Government wanted to remove any director it would give Parliament an opportunity to discuss.

Even as it is, the Bill strikes a very correct and reasonable balance between autonomy and accountability which in reality are the two attributes which can make A.I.R. perform its three-fold functions of informing, educating and entertaining the people.

World Bank Report on India

The World Bank feels that the accumulation of external resources in India is a temporary phenomenon and is likely to disappear by the end of the Sixth Plan.

In its report to the Aid-India Consortium, which met in Paris on June 7-8, the World Bank advised against any slowing down of aid to India. It points out that the foreign exchange requirements of the Indian economy will continue to increase rapidly and will need a rising volume of aid. "It is, therefore, important that the aid momentum to India should not be relaxed since it takes time to build up this momentum", the report says.

While appreciating the main thrust of the draft Sixth Plan the World Bank expresses its reservations about some important aspects like the objective to

reduce unemployment and poverty, the industrial policy and the power programme.

The report thinks that India's external resources are likely to disappear by the end of 1981-82, or even by 1980-81, owing to adverse developments such as a decline in the inflow of remittances, successive crop failures or a deterioration in the terms of trade.

For the new Plan the aggregate availability of resources is unlikely to be a major constraint. The projected economic growth rate is "more realistic" than in the past. While the Bank thinks that the expected increase in the domestic savings rate is over-optimistic, shortfalls in this area can be offset by improving the utilisation of foreign resources. However, the other constraints which have hampered Plan implementation in the past will be more difficult to overcome.

The World Bank is of the view that the targets for certain key sectors such as power generation, irrigation and cement, fertiliser and coal production remain ambitious but feasible. On the other hand, the principle objective relating to the reduction of unemployment and poverty will be far more difficult to attain and will require fundamental institutional reforms which go beyond the purview of Plan outlays and programmes.

The report expresses surprise that, given the draft Plan's emphasis on the reduction of poverty and unemployment, no major increase is projected in the share allocated for agriculture and allied programmes and the share allocated for social services is projected to fall. However, the report points out that a number of programmes for rural development are included in categories such as rural electrification, rural roads and village industries.

It observes that the financing of the Plan can still be met by a larger recourse to foreign savings. "Given the present aid pipeline and provided that the new aid commitments are at least maintained at the present level in real terms, a substantial increase in the draft on foreign savings can be financed without reducing external reserves to inadequate levels."

The report stresses the importance of direct programmes for creating employment, like land reforms, agricultural credit, rural development and public works. It, however, regrets that agrarian reform in India has lost "even the little momentum it had". The lack of any progress in distributing even the modest areas declared surplus, or taken over, is an indication.

Reservations for Ex-Servicemen

Reservation of larger percentage of jobs in the civil services has been announced by the Government in order to speed up the absorption of ex-servicemen. The Government decision, in a circular issued by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, made the following points:

1. The reservation for ex-servicemen should continue to be at the rate of 10 per cent in Group C posts and services and 20 per cent in Group D posts and services.

2. With their military background, ex-servicemen may be more suitable for absorption in para-military forces. Ten per cent of the posts of assistant commandants in para-military forces should be reserved for them.

3. Voluntary organisations receiving grants in aid from the Central or State Government may be required to reserve at least 10 per cent of the vacancies in the lower and middle level posts for ex-servicemen.

4. The benefit of relaxation of upper age limit by the length of military service plus three years, should be extended for appointments against unreserved vacancies in Group C and D posts.

5. There should be relaxation of educational qualifications for ex-servicemen for Group C and D and other posts.

6. The Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms should continue to deal with the formulation of broad policy and procedures, and the monitoring of information in regard to resettlement of ex-servicemen in these posts.

7. The Director-General (Resettlement) shall continue to take care of the resettlement of ex-servicemen in Government and non-Government sectors of employment, including the self-employment schemes. His offices will organise sponsoring and actual placement of individual ex-servicemen against vacancies in various Government offices and organisations.

8. An inter-ministerial committee may be constituted to work out a detailed scheme for in-service training of ex-servicemen before their absorption in civil posts and services.

A small committee of secretaries will be constituted to ensure implementation of the policy.

More Jobs for Scheduled Castes

Even though the issue of reservation of posts for members of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes is already controversial, further efforts are being made to secure more concessions for such classes. Amendment of the Constitution to make it mandatory for the State to provide for reservations in employment or appointments to posts and promotions for Scheduled Castes has been recommended by the

Working Group on Scheduled Castes and other backward classes appointed by the Union Home Ministry.

The Group has suggested a new Article to provide for reservation in services in the State, the public sector and those sections of private employment where reservation can be enforced and monitored. There is also a demand for a period of time and for carrying forward vacancies from year to year if qualified candidates are not available at a particular selection.

The Working Group has also recommended that there should be a review and revision of fiscal laws, especially income tax exemptions for depreciation which tilt the balance against labour-intensive technology where it is otherwise viable.

To the extent that such exemptions from the capital-intensive sector are found to be necessary, counter benefits will have to be provided for the labour-intensive sector. Research and development should be directed towards evolving new and appropriate technologies which will be making all labour intensive projects viable. Another demand is for setting up corporations for the development of Scheduled Castes in all States, which could function as guarantors and promoters and also provide missing inputs.

Implementation of the ceiling laws should be expedited and 50 per cent of the allottees of the surplus land should be chosen from the landless members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Minimum wages for agricultural labourers should be strictly enforced and the implementing machinery adequately strengthened.

There should be a programme to cover all the hold-

ings of Scheduled Caste landholders, most of whom are marginal farmers, with irrigation wells to the fullest extent possible. The programme for bonded labour undertaken by the Labour Ministry should be intensified.

Legislation should be undertaken to make rickshaw and cart puller owners of their own means of livelihood and to prohibit others from plying rickshaws or carts. Research should be undertaken to bring technical improvements which would reduce the physical strain of these occupations.

Commission on Expenditure

To reduce the bloated Government expenditure in the country, the Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Mr Charan Singh, has appointed an Expenditure Commission. Addressing the Commission's first meeting, he called for major cuts in Government expenditure in view of the limited resources available.

The Central Government's expenditure has risen by 35 times since 1950-51. It was, therefore, necessary that a study be made in depth to determine how this money was being spent. Mr Charan Singh asked the Commission to study the structure of the administration and suggest changes. He hoped the Commission would make constructive suggestions and not merely find faults.

The Chairman of the Commission, Mr S.N. Mishra, said the appointment of the Commission was significant since instructions on spending had to be avoided and the administration streamlined. Gandhian values should not only be preached but also practised, he added.

The Commission will submit its report in parts so that action can be taken quickly.

The final report will be submitted within a year.

Maruti Enquiry Verdict

Convincing evidence of gross and calculated misuse of power by high dignitaries, especially Mrs Indira Gandhi, Mr Sanjay Gandhi and Mr Bansi Lal, and certain State Chief Ministers and officials has been provided by the Commission of Enquiry on Maruti affairs, headed by Mr Justice A.C. Gupta, a Judge of the Supreme Court. In some respects the Gupta Commission's report is more definite than the Shah Commission findings which were dismissed by Mrs Gandhi as "a political drama". The Gupta Report is based on facts and on-the-spot findings and gives a clear verdict which needs to be speedily followed up.

The Commission observed that Mrs Gandhi allowed the office of Prime Minister to be misused to promote the business interests of her son, Mr Sanjay Gandhi, in the small car project.

The Commission's report found substance in most of the allegations contained in its terms of reference.

The conduct of Mr Sanjay Gandhi, the former Chief Minister of Haryana, Mr Bansi Lal, and some of the officials of public financial institutions received adverse comments in the 500-page report.

The Commission examined over 300 witnesses in public sittings spread over 100 days, received several hundred affidavits and went through some 2,000 files.

While Mrs Gandhi did not respond to the notice sent to her in October last year, Mr Sanjay Gandhi twice sought extension of time, but failed to appear before the Commission.

The five former Chief Ministers who were asked to

explain their conduct were: Mr Bansi Lal (*Haryana*), Mr Harideo Joshi (*Rajasthan*), Mr Zail Singh (*Punjab*), Mr N.D. Tewari (*U.P.*) and Mr Ram Lal (*Himachal Pradesh*).

The former Central Ministers on the list were Mr T.A. Pai, Mr Dinesh Singh, Mr K.D. Malaviya and Mr R.K. Khadilkar.

Curbing Communal Violence

In view of the sharp increase in recent years in the incidents of communal violence, especially at Jamshedpur and Aligarh, and the tensions at certain sensitive centres in the country, the Government of India intends to have a series of meetings with representatives of States on steps to prevent such violence.

Emphasis will be laid on the need to implement the recommendations of the National Integration Council and other similar bodies which have studied the problem in depth.

The decision follows the findings of some Central study teams which recently visited 16 districts in 10 States. It was found that many specific recommendations of the National Integration Council and the instructions of the Union Government were yet to be implemented by the States.

According to Union Home Ministry sources, the following are the areas and the type of action needed to be taken by the States.

The riots at Aligarh and Jamshedpur have highlighted the need for an urgent review of the adequacy of existing arrangements to prevent and deal with such disturbances.

Urgent attention has also to be given to the question of practical measures to increase the representation of the minority communities in police forces in the short-term and long-term measures.

An immediate review of the existing arrangements as well as steps to secure a larger measure of co-operation at different levels for practical programmes to maintain communal harmony is necessary.

Communal peace is not only a matter of administration and law enforcement arrangements. The question of enlisting constructive co-operation from political parties, the Press and other organisations and groups, at the State and Centre and local levels, to generate and sustain an atmosphere of goodwill and harmony and a sense of security among the minority communities needs to be examined in depth.

The Centre is also proposing to the States to undertake an immediate review of the action taken on the following matters: Constitution of peace committees and other preventive measures like maintenance of lists of communally active and anti-social elements. Several meetings of this type have been held in the past but without concrete results.

Strikes and Lock Outs

The latest figures released by the Union Ministry of Labour indicate that labour and industrial unrest, as manifested by strikes and lock outs have been increasing since 1971. It has also become evident that there have been more strikes and lock outs since the Janata Party assumed power in March, 1977. Again, 1978 was only slightly better than 1977 in this regard. More than 21 million man-days were lost last year, strikes and lock-outs sharing the burden almost equally.

In 1977, strikes accounted for 13.41 million man-days and lock-outs 11.90 million. West Bengal had the dubious distinction of being first among all the

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Current International Affairs

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Referendum in Nepal

For decades known as a traditionally peaceful Hindu Kingdom—the only one in the world—Nepal witnessed large scale demonstrations and disturbances in April and May, 1979. These were led by students and aimed at overthrowing the monarchy and facilitating the establishment of a democratic set-up.

There had been occasional disturbances earlier also but the King managed to suppress them; the people have been generally peace-loving and loyal to the monarch. But there has been concentration of power and wealth in the kingdom, and also suppression, political squabbles and nepotism. Many freedom fighters were put in jail and several political experiments tried to pacify the people.

King Birendra, in a broadcast to the nation on May 24, announced a referendum to let the people decide whether to continue the present partyless panchayat system with suitable reforms or usher in a multi-party Government.

The announcement, which came after violent clashes in the centre of Kathmandu between the police and thousands of demonstrators demanding political reforms, was welcomed by political leaders and others as a "historic and good step".

The referendum will be held on the basis of adult franchise. "Since delay in such a referendum is undesirable", the King said, a National Election Commission for this purpose would

be set up within a week. While the King did not mention when the referendum would be held, observers felt that it might take three months.

The present panchayat (council) system of government was set up by King Birendra's father and immediate predecessor, King Mahendra. In a royal takeover of power in December, 1960, he suddenly abolished a Western style parliamentary system and had Mr Koirala, the then Prime Minister, arrested.

Political parties have been banned since then and the press is Government controlled.

Soon after the royal announcement, Mr B.P. Koirala, the main political opponent of the partyless system said: "We democrats will now address ourselves to the task of educating the people on the implications of this referendum."

The Prime Minister, Mr Kirti Nidhi Bista, submitted his resignation on May 25. Apparently his action followed the King's displeasure over the inept handling of the prolonged student agitation which culminated in violent clashes in Kathmandu and elsewhere. Twenty persons were killed and over 250 injured in the clashes.

All indications at that time were that Nepal was on the verge of a revolution and the King's order for a referendum is evidently designed as a sop to the people and a bid to buy time and save the throne. The referendum will be secret; based on adult suffrage and offer some

options, including a reformed panchayat system and a multi-party administration—a 11 an effort to reconcile popular aspirations with national requirements.

People in Nepal were granted full freedom of expression by King Birendra who has, however, not suspended the Constitutional Provisions pertaining to political activities. Restrictions on the formation of politically motivated unions, associations and other organisations remain.

The announcement has been welcomed by the people. Former Prime Minister B.P. Koirala described this as a very healthy development. This meant that the King wanted "the referendum to be a real referendum" in which people could vote according to their conscience.

According to a Royal Palace communique, the King granted full freedom to fearlessly and freely express views in favour of or against the two choices—the present system with suitable changes or a multi-party system, given in the national referendum. While asking the people to exercise restraint, the communique said that freedom of expression had been granted to "ensure a completely free, impartial and fair referendum."

The communique warned that in the name of freedom of expression and public opinion, nobody would be allowed to indulge in subversive activities, defamation, arson, looting or other illegal acts, so as to hamper the country's law and order.

Mr Surya Bahadur Thapa, 51, succeeded Mr Kirti Nidhi Bista as Prime Minister. As leader of the partyless panchayat system, Mr Thapa will symbolise the establishment against the challenge posed by those favouring a multi-party system in the proposed referendum.

A former Prime Minister during 1966-69, Mr Thapa was imprisoned for 18 months during 1972-73 for publicly demanding fundamental rights for the people and for supporting the demand for an end to "dyarchy in the Kingdom".

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Switchover in Canada

As in Britain, there has been a change in the political complexion of the Government in Canada also. In the general elections held in that country in the last week of May, Mr P i e r r e Trudeau, the Liberal leader and the Western world's longest serving political leader, was ousted from power after 11 years of rule. Led by a political novice named Joe Clark, the Progressive Conservative Party won the Canadian general elections, though it would be more than five seats short of an absolute majority in the 282-member House of Commons.

The Conservatives won 136, the Liberals 112, t h e Socialist New Democratic Party 26 and the Quebec-based Social Credit Party 6.

Mr Clark, who later formed the first Conservative Government in Canada in 16 years, will need tacit support from the Left-leaning New Democrats of the French-Canadian S o c i a l Credit Party to be able to rule effectively.

Mr Trudeau conceding defeat (caused by his wife's scandals) said: "I'll be a pretty good Leader of the Opposition."

Mr Clark, 20 years junior to Mr Trudeau, is the youngest leader in Canada's 112 years history and the youngest leader of a major Western country. He has been in active politics for only seven years and leader of his party for only three. He has no Government or business experience.

Mr Trudeau's position was

dramatically eroded as 11 of his 32 Cabinet Ministers (all from English-speaking Canada) lost their seats.

Mr Clark, in his victory speech, held out an olive branch to Quebec saying he wanted to make his country of two languages and two cultures a model for the world. "I remain determined to form a genuinely national Government representative of all parts of Canada."

The new Canadian Premier announced that he would like to improve relations with India.

India's relations with Canada under Mr Trudeau had lately become cool when Canada stopped its aid to this country after the Pokhran atomic explosion.

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Failure of UNCTAD

The hopes and aspirations of the poor nations of the world were scuttled at the month-long, gruelling session of UNCTAD-V held at Manila, owing to the adamant attitude of the affluent nations. In fact, the rich, developed countries' stand at the session was more heartless and more unsympathetic than at previous conferences of this organisation or at o t h e r international forum. The prospects of social and economic justice all over the globe have thus receded further and the present injustices will consequently continue.

Even after prolonged negotiations the developing nations were able to win only on a few minor points out of their long list of economic grievances against the advanced and industrialised nations. Nor did these rich nations succeed in their aim to split the Third World and get the energy crisis mentioned in an official text on the problems of all countries.

The Philippines Foreign Minister, Mr Carlos P. Romulo,

the Conference President, said there had been "no victoriesno defeats". He reminded delegates of the difficulties in reconciling the interests of 159 nations in varying stages of economic development, of widely divergent doctrines and beliefs.

The developing nations wanted a commitment from the industrialised nations that 25% of the world manufacturing output, and 30% of manufacturing trade would be theirs (Developing nations) by the year 2000. They did not get it. They also fought unsuccessfully for an international debt commission that would help them re-schedule debt payments to Western nations.

The Third World bloc did get one key demand accepted—exclusive meetings without the industrialised nations, which would foot most of the bills for the gatherings. The Conference also unanimously adopted a voluntary plan to boost the economies of the world's 30 poorest countries. The programme urges donor countries to double their subsidies to the less developed nations. The U.S.A. and Britain welcomed the programme but said they could not make new financial commitments.

What the Conference failed to achieve may be listed as follows:

1. A group of senior experts charges with the task of examining the "restructuring of the international economic order" and "global consultations" on the matter.

2. Reforms of the international monetary system. The Group of 77 (119 developing countries) sought creation of a group of experts to probe the system and make necessary recommendations.

3. Extension, duration and field of application of the generalised system of preferences,

with the developing countries accorded Customs tariff benefits.

4. Evaluation of the Tokyo Round for multilateral trade negotiations which the "Group of 77" claimed took little heed of their interests.

5. A better sharing of international maritime bulk shipping and a compensatory facility for export shortfalls of the developing countries.

6. A debt commission to restructure the \$ 300,000 million loans of the developing countries.

7. A code of conduct on technology transfers. The Third World wanted this binding; the industrialised nations only voluntary.

8. Against bitter Third World criticism that they got everything and gave nothing, the Group B (Industrialised) countries countered that change could only come gradually and not by Conference mandate.

The rich nations, however, yielded on the following issues:

1. A "substantial" action programme for the 31 least developed countries for the next decade and acknowledgement that "massive efforts" in this field are necessary.

2. An appeal to fight inflationary pressures and annual study of production and trade schemes to be undertaken by UNCTAD.

3. Holding of a restrictive business practices conference at the end of 1979, with multinationals or transnational corporations in for a thorough investigation.

4. A call to double official development assistance without, however, fixing a time frame.

5. Holding of separate meetings for the developing countries within UNCTAD.

6. Studies to be undertaken on brain drain or reverse transfer of technology, improved use of patents, exploitation of ocean-bottom resources.

India announced a voluntary contribution of 85 million exclusively to the second window of the Common Fund to be set up under UNCTAD's integrated programme for commodities. India had in 1976 committed itself to making a contribution of \$ 25 million to the Common Fund.

The second window would finance measures other than buffer stocking of commodities which would be taken care of through the first window.

The UNCTAD-V meeting adopted a resolution on brain drain, on which developed countries maintained their reservations about assisting developing countries for reverse transfer of technology.

Non-aligned Conference Fiasco

Afflicted right from the start with procedural wrangles and controversies, including the disputes over Kampuchea and Egypt, the Colombo meeting of 88 Non-aligned Foreign Ministers concluded on June 9 without achieving concrete success in any field. It was, in fact, described as the most unsuccessful Non-aligned conference to date, with fissures in the movement and a major split among the members becoming too evident with every day's proceedings. The conclusion became inescapable that the non-aligned movement has been weakened and that the prospects for a successful outcome of the Havana summit, due next September, are anything but bright.

While the Arab nations seemed determined to expel Egypt from the Non-aligned club for signing a separate treaty with Israel, India and certain other

countries opposed such a course as totally unwarranted and without a precedent. Mr Desai even cautioned that he would not attend the Havana meeting if Egypt was expelled from the movement. Ultimately, the Colombo conference adopted a watered down compromise resolution on the subject.

As for Kampuchea, the dispute over the aggression by China continues and there was considerable opposition to the decision of the conference to permit the ousted Pol Pot regime representative to take a seat but not to participate in the proceedings. Pulls and pressures were evidently at work and no firm decision was taken on the basic issues facing the conference.

Ultimately both the issues of Egypt and Kampuchea were deferred for the Havana meeting. Thus there was no sign of the consensus which has all along been a part of the non-aligned theology. According to one member, the Kampuchean controversy has led to the emergence of "non-alignment within non-alignment".

The non-aligned nations have thus saved their superficial unity, but they have gravely endangered the Havana meeting of Heads of State and government who will have a critical meeting. The world's "most righteous community" stands split and now presents a pathetic sight, almost beyond redemption.

The Colombo Conference has warned the developing world against new arrangements and interlocking alliances "which will serve the same purpose as military alliances of the cold war era."

In its political declaration the Non-aligned Bureau welcomed the dismantling of certain multilateral military alliances, such as CENTO and

SEATO, and expressed the hope that this positive trend would be accelerated.

The Bureau noted that several other countries, including Iran, Pakistan, Grenada, Bolivia and Surinam, wished to join the Non-aligned club; this has been interpreted as an indication of the increasing relevance of the movement to contemporary international relations. The Bureau stressed that links forged on the basis of non-aligned principles had helped to transcend differences and should continue to do so, resisting outside pressures and influences from whichever quarter they emanate. The effective role of the movement in establishing a new international order and the strengthening of national information and mass media systems was also noted.

Pakistan as Non-aligned

With the spokesmen of the present Pakistan, including Mr Agha Shahi, special Adviser on Foreign Affairs, declaring that Pakistan is non-aligned in both spirit and action, especially after its exit from CENTO and SEATO, the entry of Pakistan into the club of the non-aligned has now become certain. The formal admission of Pakistan to this community, already 88 strong, will be announced at Havana next September. India has all along supported Pakistan's claim for entry; at the Belgrade conference of Non-aligned Ministers India and certain other countries had supported Pakistan's case, with the result that Pakistani representatives were allowed "observer" status.

Mr Agha Shahi claimed on June 11, after the Colombo conference, that for all practical purposes Pakistan had been admitted into the Non-aligned movement. He had led the Pakistani delegation to the Colombo meet and disclosed that the confe-

rence had unanimously recommended Pakistan's admission.

At the Colombo meeting of the Non-aligned Bureau, and on earlier occasions also, objections had been raised by Afghanistan against granting admission to Pakistan. Differences between Pakistan and Afghanistan had become intense lately, but the Pakistani leader argued that such differences did not give any country the right to veto or block admission to the Non-aligned movement.

Mr Agha Shahi also contend that Pakistan's relations with the U.S.A. had been referred to at the Colombo conference as a reason against admitting Pakistan, but the fact was that several other countries had bilateral relations with one or the other Big Powers, and, therefore, such links could not be used to debar Pakistan from being officially admitted to the Non-aligned movement.

Afghan-Pakistan Discord

Relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan have become even more strained lately following the allegations by Kabul's Tarakki regime that Islamabad was "interfering" in Afghanistan's internal affairs by allowing guerrilla camps within its territory and allowing the rebels (who are creating trouble against the Kabul Government) to operate from within Pak areas on the border.

The reality is that there has been serious trouble in Afghanistan with a large number of orthodox rebels staging a virtual revolt in certain areas and posing a major challenge to the Tarakki Government which is Leftist and distinctly pro-Soviet. Foreign observers even believe that the coup of March, 1978, through which Tarakki seized power with the assistance of the Soviet Union, has "backfired", with the danger to its stability

mounting month by month. The rebels do have the moral, and possibly material, support of the Pakistanis.

Early in June, Pakistan's President informed the Soviet Union that his country had no intention whatsoever of interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. Pakistan, in fact, wanted "to keep the door open for a dialogue with Kabul on the basis of peaceful co-existence and mutual respect." Diplomatic exchanges are already being made in this regard, he claimed.

Recently, the Soviet newspaper *Pravda* alleged that Pakistan had been mobilising Afghan rebel forces on its territory "in preparation for a full-scale military action against Afghanistan." Pakistan was warned that it was being dragged into a risky game "that could have fatal consequences".

Refuting the charge, Pakistani spokesmen have said that the criticism was misdirected and that it was characteristic of the Soviet attitude on Pak-Afghan relations.

Rhodesia's First "Black" Ministry

Zimbabwe-Rhodesia witnessed, on June 1, a notable change in the complexion of its Government with the appointment of Bishop Abel Muzorewa as Prime Minister—the first Black Premier of the country under the new Constitution. The Whites manoeuvre to retain power through the puppet Government became apparent when it was announced that Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister and a well-known racist, joined the new 17-member Cabinet.

The Bishop himself took charge of the portfolios of Combined Operations and Defence. He also announced the names of seven Deputy Ministers.

The Executive Council (Cabinet) has 12 black Ministers and five whites, while there are three black Deputy Ministers, one Asian, one coloured (mixed race) and two whites, both former Ministers in the previous Rhodesian Front transitional Government.

Dr S. Mundawarara was named Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Information, Immigration and Tourism and acting Health Minister.

The Finance Ministry went to the former holder of the portfolio, Mr David Smith, who planned to quit politics but was persuaded to return at a crucial time in the country's economic life.

The other white Ministers are: Mr Pieter Van Derby (Transport, Power and Posts), Mr William Irvine (Agriculture) and Mr Chris Anderson (Justice and Roads and Road Traffic).

Police raided the homes and offices of officials of Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole's faction of the Zimbabwe African National Union and arrested several people.

Mr Ian Smith later offered to quit the Cabinet if his presence was not acceptable to the majority.

U.N. Verdict on Namibia

Owing to South Africa's repeated defiance of United Nations the problem of Namibia (South-West Africa) remains unsolved. The latest U.N. resolution on Namibia was passed by a big majority of 118 against nil on June 1. The resolution demanded the "immediate and unconditional end" to the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa. The resolution also called upon the Security Council to meet urgently to consider imposition of sanctions against South Africa.

Sixteen countries, including

the U.S. and nine West European countries, however, abstained. They too were agreed that pressure should be brought on South Africa to accept the U.N. plan of independence for Namibia but felt the question of taking enforcement measures against South Africa must be left to the Security Council.

The 118 votes cast in support of the resolution constituted a record for this issue at the U.N. the previous maximum voting being 92.

The 12-point resolution adopted by the Assembly was co-sponsored by 92 nations—another record in co-sponsoring on the Namibian issue. India was among them. The adoption of the resolution on Namibia ended a nine-day session of the Assembly convened exclusively to discuss Namibia in the context of Pretoria's action in withdrawing its support for the U.N. plan abruptly and holding elections in the territory unilaterally. The U.N. plan approved by the Security Council envisaged elections under U.N. supervision prior to the grant of independence of Namibia.

The resolution adopted by the Assembly in its operative part declared that South Africa has acted deceitfully in Namibia through unilateral measures and sinister schemes to the detriment of the national liberation movement.

It strongly condemned the racist regime of South Africa for its arrogant and defiant actions in imposing on the Namibian people a so-called "internal settlement" through a fraudulent and illegal national assembly designed to achieve recognition for its puppets.

The resolution called upon member-States to abstain from recognising the puppet regime and affirmed that a just and durable settlement was possible

only with the full participation of S.W.A.P.O.

Coup in Ghana

Yet another coup was staged in Ghana, the small African country made so famous by the late Mr Nkrumah many years ago, on June 5 when the armed forces Revolutionary Council there seized power, ousting Lieut Gen Fred Akuffo who was also leading a military government. Accra Radio announced that Lieut General Akuffo and 14 other high-ranking Armed Forces and civilian commanders should surrender or face the consequences.

The new regime, which is headed by a young radical, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, rapidly consolidated its position. Life soon returned to normal in the country, with troops withdrawing from the streets to give the appearance of normal conditions. The earlier report that Lieut Gen Akuffo had been stabbed during the fighting was described as incorrect; he was still at large.

Those who ousted the former regime were mostly rebel Air Force officers. The insurgents led by Air Force Major Opuku Mensah warned the police also to lay down arms or be bombarded by aeroplanes. Capt Rawlings was in prison for having attempted a coup last May but he was rescued by the rebels; evidently he was among the major instigators of the latest coup.

The General election plans in the country were not cancelled.

World Oil Crisis

The world is likely to be confronted with a daily shortage of 2 million barrels by 1985 and a 25 per cent shortage in oil supplies in about a decade, according to the 20-Nation

International Energy Agency (I.E.A.) in a forecast published on June 6.

According to the estimate, the combined oil exports of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (O.P.E.C.) will fall by 24.9 per cent short of the demands as currently foreseen by 1990 *i.e.*, about 10 years from now.

The agency, which includes all the 30 leading non-Communist industrial nations except France, predicted that the shortfall will be about 5.8 per cent by 1985.

Another report warned that the I.E.A.'s pessimistic forecast might turn out to be over-cautious and the real shortfall might actually be much greater. This implies that the world oil crisis may be really grave, calling for international co-operation to reduce oil consumption so as to avert a major disaster.

It is significant that talks have already been started between President Carter of the U.S.A. and leaders of West Germany on the entire energy issue. The I.E.A. states that the projected level of inputs in 1985 and 1990 could be higher due to the higher energy demand growth, further delays in nuclear capacity expansion, and possibly in the construction of coal-fired plants as well as decline in expected indigenous oil production.

The overall world oil demand is expected to rise from 1.6 billion tonnes in 1985 to 2.13 billion tonnes in 1999. In the same period O.P.E.C. exports are expected to decline, leaving a net shortfall of 100 billion tonnes in 1985 and of 530 billion tonnes in 1990.

According to a report from oil producing centres, member States of O.P.E.C. are willing to increase their oil production within certain limits to cover the

world-wide demand. This was disclosed by the O.P.E.C. Chairman. The chairman, who is the Oil Minister of U.A.E., explained that the oil exporting States did not wish to encourage extravagant use of oil, and the main client regions such as America, Europe and Japan would continue to receive supplies. "They need us and we need them since we cannot drink our oil."

Altogether, world oil prices have risen 31 per cent since the O.P.E.C. meeting in December, 1978. But purchases by O.P.E.C. States is likely to keep pace with this escalation and this could be a matter of concern for the more developed of the developing countries. In fact the revolution in Iran will mean a cut in its imports. According to CIA's projections, the inflow to Iran will drop by more than half to \$ 11,000 million.

Saudi Arabia, too, is rapidly approaching the point where it finds difficulty in expanding its imports at a rate sufficient to mop up its oil revenues.

Disarmament Conference Consensus

The futile drama of Disarmament Conferences at Geneva has been going on for over a decade, without any concrete results emerging from the prolonged talks held almost as a ritual. This year's four-week session, attended by as many as 151 nations, concluded on June 10 after adopting, by consensus, a document identifying the elements on which the proposed comprehensive programme of world disarmament should be based.

Crisis again threatened the Disarmament Commission's work when the nuclear powers and other countries reiterated their known stand and the working groups did not succeed in

evolving a compromise resolution. The main responsibility of saving the conference from collapse fell on India because it was at India's suggestion, supported by other non-aligned nations, that the Disarmament Commission was set up in 1978 to serve as a forum for deliberations and provide political thrust to the slow-moving disarmament negotiations. At the latest session the Commission adopted by consensus the recommendations drawn up by its chairman, India's M.K. Vellodi, Secretary to the Ministry of External Affairs, who is being asked to continue to head the Commission until the next session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament to be held in 1982.

As expected, the nuclear issue was the major point of controversy and the main difference between the nuclear powers and the other powers. While the Big Powers sought to introduce the concept of balance between nuclear disarmament and disarmament in conventional weapons they argued that the latter must receive importance. They urged that the disarmament programme must give prominence to strengthening of safeguards evolved by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The non-nuclear nations, on the other hand, resisted the attempts of the Big Powers to dilute the urgency of nuclear disarmament and succeeded in inscribing in the consensus document that immediate cessation of the nuclear arms race must receive special attention even in the very first stages of the comprehensive programme for disarmament. They were able to resist the efforts to accord prominence to the nuclear non-proliferation regime and inclusion of references to I.A.E. safeguards.

Red Army alert in Asia

Perhaps for the first time the entire South-East Asian region was alerted early in June, against acts of terrorism by the "Red Army" which comprises a revolutionary group determined to wreak vengeance on Japanese leaders.

The Japanese security authorities in Tokyo sent notes of caution to its embassies and their counterparts to look out for possible attacks by this desperate group, especially during the industrial nations' summit scheduled to be held at the end of June. Photographs of the suspected terrorists were circulated to the embassies. Certain documents had been intercepted which indicated that attacks by the "Red Army" might take place in Europe and West Asia also. The Indian authorities also received the warning and for several days the Japanese Embassy in Delhi was strictly guarded against any suspects.

The "Red Army" has a brief but eventful history. In 1974 its guerrillas attacked the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur and seized more than 50 hostages, including the American Consul, in a bid to secure the release of some of their colleagues imprisoned in Japanese jails.

According to reports, some of the Red Army guerrillas were about to enter Thailand which, consequently, became cautious. The Japanese authorities still fear that kidnapping attempts might be made in certain capitals and that the Red Army might strike suddenly. U.S. embassies and other U.S. institutions and the residences of U.S. Ambassadors at various places have been reinforced.

The "Red Army" has certain grievances against the U.S.A. and is opposed to Japan's collaboration with Americans. Photographs of "Red Army" activists have been displayed at many police stations in South-East Asia.

National Affairs (Contd. from page 753)

States; in strikes it lost 2.44 million man-days; Maharashtra coming a close second with 2.24 million.

In the case of lock-outs, too, West Bengal led the other States with 7.37 million man-days lost, U.P. coming a poor second with 1.2 million.

In the last quarter of 1978, industry wise, agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing accounted for the loss of 53,036 man-days; mining and quarrying 227,000; manufacturing 1.49 million, electricity, gas and water 64,519; wholesale, retail trade and restaurants and hotels 4,654; transport and communications 592,625, and financing, insurance, real estate and business and services 132,120.

Indiscipline and violence accounted for the loss of 2.2 million man-days in the quarter ended in September, 1978 and

75,667 in the last quarter of 1978.

Wages and allowances, bonus, personnel problems, retrenchment and leave and hours of work were the principal causes attrition.

The figures for the quarter ended December last show that workers affiliated to the All-India Trade Union Congress (C.P.I.-backed) were responsible for a total loss of 108,225 man-days, those of the Indian National Trade Union Congress (backed by Congress-I) 254,709 man-days, Hind Mazdoor Sabha (Socialists) 28,773; United Trade Union Congress 2,029 and multiple union 74,102. However, unaffiliated and others accounted for a substantial loss of 3.7 million man-days.

Decentralisation of Power

Since concentration of administrative, financial and other powers brings in its wake many malpractices, not to speak of the delays and dithering, considerable importance has been attached to the development of democracy at the grassroots, that is, at the village level. Specifically, attention has been focussed since Independence on panchayati raj institutions. Gandhiji laid much stress on developing these basic institutions, and regarded them as essential if Swaraj was to have real meaning for the masses. The Janata Government stands committed to the decentralisation of power and development of panchayats. In pursuance of this policy it appointed in 1977 a committee, headed by Mr Asoka Mehta, to enquire into the working of panchayati raj institutions and to suggest measures to strengthen them so as to enable a decentralised system of planning and development to be effective.

The Committee reviewed the system of panchayats and other similar institutions since the Balwantrai Committee reported on their working in 1957. It came to the dismal conclusion that the activities of panchayati raj institutions were meagre, their resource base was weak and the overall attention given to them niggardly. It also pointed out that the attitude of the leaders and politicians generally towards the panchayats, and to the question of reinforcing them by strengthening the processes at the grassroots, was lukewarm. In particular, the attitude of legislators in some

States towards panchayats was 'cooling' off.

The reasoning was also interesting, though deplorable. The basic idea of establishing panchayats was to provide opportunities to the villagers to manage their own affairs and thus to enable local people to get training in leadership. But a number of M.P.s and M.L.A.s feared that new leaders emerging from the rural areas would pose a challenge to their own position in their respective constituencies.

The Asoka Mehta Committee also found that panchayati raj institutions are dominated by economically or socially privileged sections of society and that these had facilitated the emergence of oligarchic forces yielding no benefits to the weaker sections of society. Still worse, it was found that the working of these bodies had been vitiated by political factions and groupism. The Committee stated that strengthening panchayati raj as an extension of democracy to the grassroots is an inevitable imperative. Enormous resources were waiting to be harnessed and the new dynamics of development demanded a high level of co-ordination among the various Government agencies. This could be ensured only by involving the people in planning as well as in day-to-day implementation of projects. It felt that panchayati raj is the only system that could open the eyes of the people to the process of democratic government and

make them realise their rights and obligations.

The Asoka Mehta's main recommendations (out of the 100 it made) were: a two-tier system—a district-level Zila Parishad and a Mandal Panchayat which would cover a group of villages instead of each village having a small panchayat of its own. Thus the existing Block-level Samitis would be abolished. Secondly, the Committee favoured open participation of political parties in panchayati raj affairs in the belief that ultimately this may convert their mutual competition into constructive co-operation. Several of the Committee's recommendations relate to the welfare of weaker sections of society. The Committee said the funds earmarked for their welfare must be subjected to social audit by a district-level agency as well as by a committee of legislators.

As for liberalising the funds, the Committee suggested that the quantum of funds to be made available to panchayati raj institutions should be more than Rs. 2,500 crores—about Rs. 6 crores per district. Both from the standpoints of development and socio-political angles, the Committee felt it was imperative to decentralise power planning process and development activities below the State level. Panchayati raj institutions should be treated both as an end and as a means.

The Asoka Mehta Committee's report was submitted to the Government in August, 1978. For some months it was

considered, rather leisurely, by the State Governments. But the report was subjected to much criticism at the Chief Ministers' Conference held on May 20, 1979. Several of the basic recommendations of the Committee were rejected, and preference for the existing three-tier system, in particular, was firmly indicated.

Turning down the proposal for a two-tier system, the Chief Ministers opted for the three-tier arrangements—the panchayat, the Block Samiti and the Zila Parishad. The Chief Ministers also turned down the suggestion for a Constitutional amendment to give a common, countrywide statutory basis for devolution of power. Since panchayati raj is, after all, a State subject, it was thought that a Constitutional change would whittle down the State's authority.

Most of the Chief Ministers also rejected the suggestion that political parties should be allowed to participate in panchayat elections. The general feeling was that intrusion of political parties in village affairs would create an unhealthy atmosphere, create more jealousies and tensions, and adversely affect the functioning of panchayats; in sum, such intrusion would disrupt the cohesion of rural society. In this connection he suggested that political parties should themselves reach a voluntary agreement not to take part in village elections and to confine their activities to the district level. Interestingly, West Bengal and Kerala, where Communists are in power, favour the participation of political parties in panchayat polls, evidently because of political motivations. However, there was a consensus that panchayats should have more powers, both financial and general, so as to strengthen them and make them more effective.

Mr Morarji Desai, the Prime Minister, addressing the conference, expressed views which were generally acceptable and which were sound, based as they were on his firm Gandhian principles and long experience of the administration. First, he favoured the grant of more powers and adequate resources to panchayats and stressed that an efficient panchayat system would give the villagers more confidence and strength. Secondly, he stressed that panchayats should be free of groupism; participation of political parties in panchayat elections was, therefore, inadvisable. Among the suggestions he made was that in order to eliminate, or at any rate reduce, groupism, panchayat elections should be made as cheap as possible—by a show of hands, if possible.

Another way to achieve the same purpose was to give incentives to ensure unanimous elections as far as possible. In this connection the Punjab Government's decision to give cash awards of Rs. 5,000 to each village panchayat which unanimously elects the Sarpanch was commended.

The Chief Ministers also rejected the Asoka Mehta's recommendation regarding Nyaya Panchayats. The Committee had suggested that Nyaya Panchayats should be kept separate from developmental panchayats. A qualified Judge should preside over them and elected panches should act as members of Nyaya benches but not in the area from which they were elected. The Chief Ministers felt that if the elected members of Nyaya panchayats were not to be trusted in some cases, how could they be trusted in others?

The emphasis has to be on truly functional and viable panchayats, and not on local politics. There is no doubt that in many States panchayats have not

functioned smoothly; local jealousies, vested interests and the predominance of affluent people, including big landlords over village affairs, have disrupted rural harmony and made a mockery of panchayati raj at certain places. The Sarpanch in many cases has become the village boss, dictating his wishes and indulging in favouritism and nepotism. The other panches have remained silent spectators and have often been overawed.

The Mandal Panchayats suggested by the Asoka Mehta Committee would hardly have served the purpose in view. The Committee said such panchayats would be charged with "monitoring the large number of micro projects most of which would require a span of technology beyond the capacity of a village panchayat". The Committee had proposed the establishment of village committees to facilitate the people's participation in Mandal Panchayats "through a mix of elections, nominations, co-options and reservations". But such bodies would have been a needless imposition of a well accepted and traditional system. Again, abolition of the second tier in village self-government would have meant loss of the local touch so vital to successful village administration.

Another tendency—highly deplorable from every point of view—of certain State Governments has been to postpone panchayat elections again and again, for political considerations. Obviously, panchayat and civic elections in towns should not be made the political tool to capture power and to keep out rival groups. Such tactics make a mockery of the entire system of establishing democracy at the grassroots. A five-year term is favoured and the elections should be regular and free of misleading propaganda.

Law of the Sea: Another abortive Effort

Several international conferences arranged under the auspices of the United Nations have proved futile, despite prolonged sessions extending over years. The Disarmament Conference is an outstanding example of such failures, but next in cost and futility comes the Conference on the Law of the Sea, the latest six-week session of which (the eighth of the long series) concluded in Geneva early in May. The earlier sessions were held, over a period of six years, in Geneva, Caracas (*Venezuela*) and New York in a bid to work out a universal convention to regulate all aspects of activities on the sea. The specific issue before the latest round of talks was the proposal to draw up a treaty governing the exploitation of the ocean floor's massive mineral wealth. A square mile of ocean bed could yield 30,000 tons of manganese, 3,600 tons of aluminium, 17,000 tons of iron, 1,200 tons of nickel and 650 tons of copper. Right from the start the U.S.A. had been threatening to pass unilateral legislation on sea-bed mining. The Group of 77—linking about 117 developing countries—stated in a statement issued on the eve of the conference that unilateral legislation would be illegal; it would poison the atmosphere of the negotiations and most probably lead to a breakdown of the talks.

The comprehensive agenda before the conference comprised a draft treaty of some 372 articles, and the effort was to have the treaty approved at the conference and set the stage for signing it in Caracas by the

spring of 1980. At the previous round of talks a proposal was actively mooted to seek agreement by consensus and take decisions by voting if that was the only alternative available. The U.S.A. had stated that the proposed legislation would be an interim measure until the conference reached an agreement and would assure security to sea-bed mining companies to go ahead with long-term investment in development. According to U.S. spokesmen, commercial exploitation of the sea-bed for its nodules containing metals such as manganese, copper, cobalt and nickel ores, is not expected to start before 1985. The developing countries, which do not possess the requisite technique and funds to mine the sea-bed, want to establish an international sea-bed authority to control exploitation.

The sceptics were proved right, and the Geneva conference achieved very little. No agreement was reached on any of the points in dispute; worse, the attitudes of the two sides became even harder and more inflexible. At times the discussions were so bitter that many of the important issues were not taken up at all. The main point—the structure and powers of the proposed international sea-bed authority—remained unsettled, because of the sharp conflict of interests between the scientifically advanced nations, especially the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union, and the rest of the world. Since the standpoints seem irreconcilable, there seems to be little chance of an accord even at the next round. Thus

the hopes that were expressed early in 1979 that the “biggest, the most complex and the most gruelling parleys” in history would resolve the remaining differences on sea wealth and ensure the signing of the final treaty, were dashed.

The eighth round of the conference held at Geneva this year was attended by 158 countries—eight more than the membership of the U.N. The general impression was that during the 54 weeks of tough bargaining which had been carried on during the previous seven rounds spread over six years, almost around the globe, agreement had already been reached on about 90 per cent of the items in the draft 372-clause treaty. But the continuing clash of interests has created doubts in countless minds whether an agreement would ever be possible—unless the Big Powers climb down and let the rest of the world have their due share in the immense wealth of the sea, which has been described as the “common heritage of mankind”. But the Big Powers are guided by the 17th century notion of freedom of the high seas and would like to plunder them for their own benefit.

Countries having a sea coast are naturally concerned over the failure of the conference. The countries which are landlocked and located in the hinterland of continents have been promised some share in the surplus fish even in the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone of coastal neighbours. Three countries of Asia, in particular, would stand to

gain if such an accord were to be reached—Nepal, Afghanistan and Bhutan; these countries would put in claims to waters of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The stakes in the Sea Law Conference are very high, and although the Big Powers do not wish to arm the proposed international authority with wide powers on the lines urged by the developing countries, the eagerness to reach a settlement is unmistakable because it would be in mutual interest. The conference had accepted the concept of a parallel system which envisaged the division of the mining area to be exploited between the proposed international authority and individual States or corporations for 20 years.

India's stand on sea law issues has been guided naturally by her own long-term interests. First, deep sea mining should get a fillip because India is short of metals and has to depend on imports of several types. Secondly, India has an important stake in the determination of the size and limits of the Continental Shelf because in the Bay of Bengal she has a very broad Shelf. It would fall within India's jurisdiction if the Irish formula (applicable region by region, as against the Soviet formula proposing a fixed concept of 560 kms) is accepted. India has, however, kept her options open since, according to a geological theory, the Bay of Bengal contains rich minerals and oil. India has a 4,000-mile long coastline and 1,280 islands, big and small, with rich seabed and fish resources.

The unresolved differences at the Sea Law Conference may be listed as follows: definition of territorial waters belonging to coastal States; the proposed production limit on the deep sea mining of nickel and other metals, and unilateral measures by some industrialised countries to pave the way for sea-bed

exploitation. There are different interpretations and implications of the phrase "common heritage of mankind". The deep sea-bed is to be distinguished from both the 200-mile exclusive coastal Economic Zone and the area covered by the Continental Shelf. These issues are apart from the major one pointed out above—the form and powers of the international seabed authority on which all countries would be represented. Such an authority has yet to be given a legal structure. For a long time differences persisted over the manner in which the proposed authority would go about the task of exploiting seabed resources and bringing them up. A suggestion made earlier by Dr Henry Kissinger—for a parallel system under which half the wealth could be exploited by the international authority and half by private contractors under licence from the authority has been under active consideration. Ultimately an agreement would have to be reached on this basis, with some modifications in the details. Such private contractors would pay heavy revenues to the international authority. The failure of the Sea Law Conference can rightly be ascribed to the rigid stand taken by the U.S.A. which has the necessary technology for sea mining and which, therefore, is in no mood to share it with others for the general benefit of mankind. To the U.S.A. the very idea of a licence fee and of sharing the profits is unwelcome. There is a wide gap between the plans for the scales of fee and profit-sharing—the U.S., backed by a few other countries proposed a figure of 2·1 million dollars for a mining site between 1986 and 1999 and 8·7 million dollars thereafter; the Soviet Union (supported by Norway and Australia) suggested a lump sum of 21·5 million dollars. India and other developing countries suggested a fee of 80 million dollars from 1986 onwards. The USA

has started disliking the growing demands of the rest of the world and has again renewed its threat to pass a unilateral law to exploit the sea wealth on its own.

A flashback would be useful. At the first session of the conference held in New York in December, 1973, and at the second session held in Caracas in 1974, the major issues discussed were: a territorial sea limit, navigation rights in narrow straits, deep sea mining, pollution control and scientific research. Useful spade work was done at these talks, though sharp differences were noticeable among the Big Powers. The conference in Geneva in 1975 was a "negotiating session" between the industrially advanced and the developing countries, but the progress was disappointing. A single negotiating text was drawn up, and that was all.

This text was discussed at the fourth session in New York in March-May, 1976, and a revised version was drawn up. It indicated the will to reach a settlement in drafting a modern international maritime convention. The agreement related to the territorial waters limit (12 miles) over which the littoral States would have full sovereignty; exclusive customs rights over an additional 12 miles; and the Continental Shelf and Exclusive Economic Zone (both 200 miles from the base line).

The concept of a 200-mile Economic Zone was accepted by a majority of the States, but the landlocked States (numbering about 52) are naturally not happy over such an arrangement. The fifth session, held in New York, also proved fruitless, the crucial issues proving the stumbling block. Although the UN Secretary General warned the sixth session that failure to reach an agreement would lead to a dangerous scramble for control of the oceans, the conference did not prove very successful.

Problems of Decentralization

Decentralization has been the watchword of Free India governments. The present ruling party has emphasised this ad nauseum, and carried it a step forward. The process of decentralization is, indeed, long and arduous. This feature discusses decentralization at political, economic and administrative levels and the problems involved.
—Editor

Introduction: Decentralization and democracy are inalienable. The Janata party manifesto for the General elections of March 1977 said: "A high degree of centralization or the concentration of power is inconsistent with democracy." The party committed itself to take steps, if returned to power, to ensure decentralisation at economic and political levels.

In the Lincoln's famous formula of democracy: "Government of the people, by the people, for the people", the emphasis is on peoples' active participation. In the present-day multi-million nations (as in India and some other third world countries) and heterogeneous societies, the Athenian models of democratic concept are inconceivable. Participating in government must be, for all but an infinitesimal part of the population, a delusion in a large State. We no more govern ourselves by participating in an election than we operate on ourselves by choosing a surgeon. An individual's vote is but a drop in a bucket of water.

We have traversed a long distance away from the ideal situation of Platonic or Aristotelian era when there was no such thing as "a majority". The true democracy conceives "the decision-making as a cumulative majoritizing process at the end of which unanimity is reached". There is no "majority rule" in the sense that 'Ayes have it' or 'noes have it' by virtue of their

larger number. Contrary to this spirit of democracy, the decisions in the Parliament, State legislatures, judiciary benches, committees or other organizations are, these days, taken by the majority rule and are taken as binding on the minority, whatever the "magnitude of sins" of the "majority". This aberration in the theory and practice of democracy is sought to be mitigated by ensuring maximal participation of the masses in the decision-making process of decentralization. The feeling that the decision taken is "my decision" is basic to the ethics of democracy or decentralization. This feeling is lacking in the functioning of modern democracies.

Notwithstanding the conceptualization of democracy as mere participation of as many individuals as possible (and not of the whole mass) through such devices as universal suffrage for persons of prescribed age (as in India), we have political, economic and administrative decentralization. Each has its own problems which are discussed in what follows.

II. Political Decentralisation: India has been the practitioner of political decentralisation. The panchayati raj in the Indian village republics has stood as a great monument even though it has suffered great erosion due its exposure to inclement forces. The fact that its revival is recommended by Asoka Mehta committee is an

evidence of its efficacy as a meaningful institution. As a corollary, it follows that the participation rate of the people at the grass roots for taking decisions on matters of regional planning and village administration will greatly increase. The sixth five-year plan report succinctly says: "It would be desirable to revitalize and involve the panchayati raj institutions as a suitable instrument for the realisation of the major goals of the Plan with popular participation".

During the British rule the objectives of political decentralisation were achieved through devolution of powers to States and Local Self-governments (municipal committees etc.). The idea was extended with the dawn of Independence. The Princely States, which were the citadels of monarchy, were liquidated and merged or integrated with the contiguous States. One might say, this marked another major step in the consummation of the process of decentralization by the nation after the attainment of Freedom.

III. Economic Decentralisation: To wipe out every tear from every eye, as the Father of the Nation desired, economic democracy must accompany political democracy. Extreme poverty witnessed in our country is not conducive to the growth and spread of an active concern for democratic methods or the safeguarding of civil liberties.

To end poverty and unemployment, the current plan has shifted the emphasis to rural development. This means development of agriculture and small and cottage industries. The government has recently started opening regional rural banks for providing credit to the rural folk. The growth of the various sectors or sub-sectors would not be possible without the involvement of millions and millions of farmers, artisans, craftsmen and small industrialists inhabiting the villages. If (and that is a big 'If') the plans could be formulated and executed from below, the return on investment of resources can be far more than it would be when the plan is imposed from above. This may be due to two reasons: first, grass root planning makes possible a more precise assessment of the local needs and of the resources available in the region to meet them; secondly, the local people will have a positive say in the planning process and their participation will ensure sustained interest in the successful implementation of the plan. It sounds strange but true that at present many of the villagers are reported to be unaware of whether there is a plan for their areas, let alone its details. This communication gap would be completely plugged with decentralised form of planning.

Economic decentralization will not have the disadvantage of tall targets divorced from the realities of the situation and therefore the shortfalls will be insignificant. The measure of success achieved will, of course, be a great incentive for the beneficiaries. The fruits of development will percolate even to the destitute and the down-trodden. This has, unfortunately, not been possible so far partly because the planning has not been done at grass root levels and partly because of other extraneous factors.

All this assumes the competence and capabilities of the people at large. Serious misgivings arise when conditions of acute poverty compounded with illiteracy and social hierarchy are recalled to mind. Apart from the weakness of pervasive poverty at the base-level, mass illiteracy (estimated at 70 per cent) results in a continuing concentration of power in the hands of a few as well as a widening gap between the elites and the masses in the rural as well as urban areas. Sectional interests are promoted by persons entrenched in position of power. The skewed distribution of wealth and income aggravates the problems of economic decentralization.

In experience and the credulous nature of the villagers are other hurdles in economic decentralisation. If the past is any guide, the big landlords and the educated section of the rural areas exploit the small fries and the uneducated farmers and the artisans.

IV. Administrative Decentralization: Political and economic decentralisation may call for administrative decentralization. The State administration at all levels will need to be revitalized. The personnel of all categories may need to be persuaded to reorient their system of values in which work in urban areas carries greater prestige. Under the changed conditions of priority for rural development and decentralized planning, work in villages and rural agencies will have to be considered more important and prestigious.

Centralization of administration is a characteristic of a feudal society. In a free society, decentralization or delegation of authority in administration is natural. India is a case in point. Decentralized administration assumes that the boss considers the subordinate com-

petent to do the work, if not as efficiently as he can, at least tolerably efficiently. The middle-level boss may extract power from the top boss but may grudge passing it on to the lower-level executives considering them as barren both in capability and integrity. Thus, the tendency for centralized administration persists in practice although it is accepted in principle.

The decentralized administration helps in taking quick decisions, in executing them and promoting a sense of responsibility. It is also possible that an incompetent person may be vested with power which is not used judiciously. Also, where people can influence the local administration, wrong or dangerous decisions may be taken. This is also true where the top boss can be influenced but not the lower ones.

Decentralisation in administration and uniformity may be conflicting ends. Not unoften the latter has a prior claim and the authority in power tries to centralise every bit of authority in the name of uniformity.

Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. So runs the old adage. Administrative decentralization provides the best shield against power-corruption. The history of India abounds with such cases. The most recent is the proclamation of Emergency. This draconian measure is alleged to have been taken to keep power centralised in the hands of a single person, the then Prime Minister or the caucus around. The traumatic experience of this has, in fact, confirmed our faith in decentralization at various levels. We are conscious of the drawbacks of over-decentralisation as much as of over-centralization. But the ruling party (Janata party)

(Contd. on page 768)

Religious Autonomy

Whether coercive conversion infringes the right to freedom of religion enshrined in the Indian Constitution has raged country-wide controversy in the wake of the recent Freedom of Religion Bill, 1978, moved in the Parliament by the Janata Member of Parliament, Mr O.P. Tyagi. This feature is a spotlight on this delicate and controversial issue. Arguments for and against the proposition are outlined here.

—Editor

India is not a theocratic State. On the contrary, it is a secular Republic as enshrined in the Preamble of our Constitution. For a multi-racial and multi-religious country like ours it was but appropriate that the founding fathers of the Constitution should have accorded equal respect to all religions without prejudice and conceptualized the creation of a secular State. (In parenthesis, it must be stated that the secular State must not be misconstrued as 'irreligious' State as some persons have tried to.) In amplification, the Constitution (Article 25) conferred on all citizens the fundamental right of "freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion". Further, it empowered the States to regulate or restrict any economic, financial, political or other secular activity which may be associated with religious practice. The regulatory or restrictive measures, if and when taken, are, obviously, intended to militate against the abuse of the right to freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

It has been noticed that some religious heads, prominently Christians, undertook proselytization in certain States in the name of propagation of their religion—Christianity. The poor and simple villagers, Adivasis and tribes in the hill areas fell an easy prey to them. The eastern States of Orissa, Madhya

Pradesh, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and three southern States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala bore the biggest brunt of coercive conversion. Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Arunachal enacted Freedom of Religion Acts in 1967, 1968 and 1977 respectively with the explicit objective to arrest the rising tide of conversion of non-Christians to Christianity. Recently, Mr O.P. Tyagi, Member of Parliament (Janata) moved Freedom of Religion Bill, 1978. This is before the Parliament now. Intensive efforts are being made, particularly by the Christian missionaries, to stall its passage. The Bill provides *inter alia* that conversion by "force, fraud or inducement" should be treated as a penal offence. The whole of the Christian community is up in arms against this anti-conversion Bill. Even Mother Teresa has registered a protest in a letter to the Prime Minister, Mr Morarji Desai. This Bill which *prima facie* appears to be innocuous has become the subject of a nation-wide controversy.

It must be pointed out at the very outset that the Bill is not directed against any particular community or sect. Why is the Christian community, then, feeling so much concerned about it? The reasons are many.

First, the Christian missionaries (especially foreigners) have indulged conspicuously in

proselytisation. In the process, they have, of course, offered baits to their victims in the form of free education upto a certain level, free clothing, free medical aid, employment etc. It is true that even the country, as a whole, has benefited from their acts of charity under the guise of religious propaganda. We have Christian-run hospitals, educational institutions (schools and colleges), orphanages and residential colonies. While all these benefits deserve to be given recognition, it must not be forgotten that they have involved the swapping of the freedom of conscience of the Indian nationals who accepted, under duress or inducement, the lure of the promised charity.

Secondly, the opponents allege that the provisions of the Bill under consideration are liable to be abused by some unscrupulous authorities empowered to proceed against the offenders. The scope of action against conversion by "inducement" or "force" (which also includes "threat of force") is not inconsiderable. Even genuine conversion it is feared may be interpreted so as to warrant action under the Bill. In Arunachal Pradesh the law is operating with incredible consequences. The Christians are denied jobs, contracts, licences etc. until they make a written statement to renounce their faith. "Internal instructions" are alleged to have been issued to this effect.

Thirdly, "force" and "fraud" are offences even under the commission laws and it should be possible to deal with them without recourse to politically motivated measures such as the one under discussion here.

Fourthly, the freedom of religion must be the same as the freedom to preach any political ideology. Is any religion more dangerous than some political ideologies?

Finally, the effect of restrictive laws on freedom of religion may scare away Christian missionaries or other religious minorities which have the sinews for the welfare of the vulnerable section of society.

The proponents of the Bill advance equally cogent reasons for its enactment.

1. To begin with, it is not repugnant to the Constitutional provisions invoked by the opponents, particularly the religious minorities.

2. As the Supreme Court stressed, confirming an earlier verdict of 1954, "there is no fundamental right to convert any person to one's own religion by an exposition of its tenets. The Article 25(1) guarantees freedom of conscience to every citizen and not merely to the followers of a particular religion. If a person converts somebody, it impinges on the freedom of conscience of a citizen. It follows that the opposition to the "anti-conversion" Bill is a blatant violence to the Supreme Court's judgement.

3. The "misdeeds" of the Christian missionaries, especially foreigners, which were brought to light by the Niyogi committee, 1954, must serve as eye-openers.

4. India is a land of numerous religious sects and sub-sects. But none has played the "game of numbers" so viciously as the Christian community has. Their strength lies in their community size and therefore they

consider conversion imperative. But India is wary of allowing it to continue unabated and suffer the trauma of yet another vivisection (the last one occurred over 31 years ago in 1947 when the Muslim community staked its claim for a separate State on the basis of its number and religion).

5. If the proselytizers are really averse to the use of "force, fraud or inducement" for the conversion of others to their own religions, why register any protests or brew up any communal trouble to the detriment of public peace?

6. Mr Desai has with his wonted candour told Mother Teresa (who has inveighed against the Bill in her letter to Mr Desai): "The Bill to which you refer does not affect that freedom (freedom of religion). In fact, it tries to ensure that freedom is exercised by the poor and the ignorant without fear or favour". "Religious conversions and charity", says Mr Desai, "cannot go well together". Religion can be promoted best, according to him, if charity on its behalf is without motives. These observations tacitly imply support (if not approval) of the Prime Minister to the Bill. This may be somewhat impolitic on the part of Mr Desai at the present juncture when the Bill is still a controversial measure. Be that as it may, the norm set by him are far from pragmatic. The rich and the enlightened religious heads (like the Christian missionaries) trade upon the ignorance and state of poverty of the Indians. Poverty knows no barriers of religion, caste or creed. So long as the basic needs of the poor and the indigent are met, religion wooed by him becomes a secondary consideration. Therefore, the real remedy of the problem lies in liquidating poverty and dispelling darkness of ignorance. Indeed, it is a long-term, but en-

during, check on proselytization. The legislative measures are but palliatives. This is borne out by the reports on the working of the Acts already on the Statute books.

A pertinent question is whether it would not be desirable to amend the Bill to dispel the misgivings (which are not wholly baseless) of the opponents of the Bill.

7. The converts to other religions or faiths are, generally, fanatics. They give vent to their fury more than others whenever communal harmony is disturbed. If conversion by coercive methods is stopped, at least the inflammable material with low ignition point will be less and as such the conflagration will also be more subdued.

8. Recently, India has been accused of nun-running. Many poor families in southern States have been persuaded to part with their daughters to be trained as nuns, mostly abroad. The blood of any Indian would boil at such fraudulent 'human drain' and heinous activities.

Conclusion: Religious autonomy is a delicate issue and it is difficult to arrive at a conclusion. The arguments are nearly evenly balanced.

Problem of Decentralization (Contd. from page 766)

has a passion for decentralization and is introducing it with a vengeance, as it were. The writing on the wall should not be ignored lest it recoils on it.

Conclusion: Caution is the better part of valour. The Janata party must proceed cautiously in practising decentralization. The problems are formidable and do not admit of easy solution. Nor can the consequences be anticipated precisely to avert the dangers.

Structural Changes in Agriculture —How and Why?

If the Janata Government wants to make agriculture as the big lever for the economic development of the country, there cannot be any getting away from "structural transformation" in the farm sector. How and why this can be done is discussed in this feature.

—Editor

Need: Agriculture is the mainstay of Indian economy. The current five-year plan has, therefore, accorded top priority to the growth and development of the agrarian sector. The total outlay proposed for agriculture, irrigation and rural development for the plan period, 1978-83, is Rs. 18,250 crore as against Rs. 8,528 crore for the fifth plan (1974-79). All investment allocation may fail to promote the plan objectives of growth with social justice and self-reliance unless a re-ordering of the agrarian structure receives a high priority in the development strategy. The existing agrarian order is historically anachronistic and economically iniquitous. The landless labourer and the small/marginal farmer co-exist with the affluent landlord. The iniquitous distribution of land and concomitant inputs (including modern technology) obstruct the fruits of growth to percolate to the vast masses. In fact, it is now being increasingly realized that growth has little significance if it is not accompanied by structural transformation necessary for the furtherance of wider socio-economic objectives of diminution of mal-nutrition, removal of poverty and unemployment and better distribution of income and assets. It is, however, not for the first time that the need for radical restructuring of the agricultural sector has been recognised. It had been regarded as "the key to India's economic develop-

ment as far back as the thirties. Credit for its inclusion in the national movement goes to Jawaharlal Nehru." Since then, consistent efforts have been made for re-distribution of income and landed assets but the policy and performance have failed to converge. The reason for this is the lack of political will. The progressive posture is believed to be purely temporary and blatantly half-hearted and insincere.

The Reserve Bank of India data show that upto sixties the land reform measures had no visible impact on the distribution of rural property. There has actually been "structural retardation". Realising all this, the sixth plan draft document reiterates that during the plan period, this "basic policy (of restructuring the agricultural economy) will be implemented vigorously so that there is a meeting ground between policy and performance."

If better distribution of the means of production in agriculture, mainly land, is achieved, the socio-political upheavals witnessed in the past will recede into the limbo history.

Methods: The most important element in the process of agrarian re-structure is the re-distribution of land. According to the current plan, the estimated surplus area as on July 31, 1977, was 5.32 million acre, the area declared surplus was 4.04 million acre, the area taken

over by the government was 2.10 million acre and the area actually distributed was 1.29 million acre. Thus, the distributed area remains less than one-fourth of the estimated surplus. The Janata party government at the Centre has desired the States to complete the distribution process of land declared surplus above the stipulated ceiling by the end of the current five-year plan, that is, by 1983. The pace of progress in different States is different but it need to be quickened if the target is to be achieved by the dead-line.

In order to help the States, the Centre (the Congress government) had incorporated all the land laws in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution. As a result, these laws became insulated against the intervention by the courts of law. The Raj Krishna committee on land reforms had, in its first report, recommended the continuance of protection given by the Congress government. If the protection were denied to the new land laws, says the committee, not only will the progress of land reforms be slowed down but numerous anomalies will arise. The committee also emphasised that the land reform laws should be suitably amended and strengthened by plugging all loopholes.

The National Commission on Agriculture, 1976, expressed the view that "there should be

minimum time gap between legislative enactments and their implementation to avoid aberration so that there is sufficient stability to foster investment." Also, the ceilings on land holdings should have a long-term basis so that inducement to invest is not hampered. Towards expeditious implementation of the land laws, the Raj Krishna panel suggested that all cases (27,155) pending in the courts (there are 11,390 cases in the Karnataka State alone—the highest number) should be disposed of speedily. If necessary, additional judges may be appointed in the courts. The committee recommended that a time-bound programme should be formulated by the revenue authorities of all States for the disposal of all land reform cases. It may be recalled that the Union Cabinet has fixed October 2, 1979, as the deadline for the implementation of the land reform laws. Whether the new target date will be strictly adhered to is problematical. In the past, all the target dates have come and gone but the land reforms remain as elusive as ever. No wonder, then, if the Prime Minister, Mr Morarji Desai, should have to point out to the State Chief Ministers that virtually no progress had been made in the last one year.

Legislation alone cannot solve the problem. Inadequacy of record of ownership rights, benami transfers and the resistance of the local vested interests backed by the rural administration tend to act as retarding factors. To overcome them the beneficiaries of the land reform measures have to be organised. The draft document of the fifth five-year plan has emphasized the involvement of the people and the setting up of land reform tribunals for speedy implementation.

The basic philosophy of the land reforms is to create viable operational holdings and also to

vest ownership in the actual tillers of the soil. The latter requires abolition of the chain of intermediaries, the enactment of tenancy laws so as to confer occupancy rights on the actual cultivators and the creation of peasant proprietorship. To discourage benami transactions, a dead-line for the resumption of self-cultivation should be fixed. For economic viability of land holdings, it is imperative to intensify consolidation of holdings operations and co-operative and joint farming. The Agricultural Commission clearly says that "the agrarian structure should be based on peasant proprietorship, strengthened and supplemented by co-operative and joint farm enterprises and backed by the necessary supplies and services for optimum utilisation of land." It adds further that all forms of tenancy and share-cropping should be abolished and the tenants and share-croppers vested with proprietary rights on a date to be specified by the State government. The relics of the old tenurial systems in whatever form they exist and wherever they exist must go. For all this radical reform the responsibility squarely lies on the State governments.

The land policy on distribution and ownership of land will be self-defeating if it fails to achieve the ultimate objective of increased production from land or return on investment. This implies an appropriate input-mix: land, labour, capital (in various forms—agricultural, implements, seeds, fertilizers, credit etc.) and water so as to optimise land use. Only then, the primary concern of the land-use policy to continuously increase the productive capability of land and to prevent its deterioration will be fulfilled. The supply of adequate, timely and inexpensive inputs (especially the money capital) underscores the need for institutional credit.

It is widely recognised that the conventional sources of finance—the domineering village money-lender—available in the rural areas have, indirectly, hampered the introduction of land reforms on an extensive scale. Where the finance is provided by an agriculturist money lender, the land given to the landless agricultural labourer under the land reform measures may fall into the hands of the money lender and the assignees of land reduced to the status of landless workers, as before. The creation of institutional credit is, thus, an important component of the new agrarian order.

Implementational problems: While the momentum for introducing land reforms has gained ground and the methods for the reforms have been considerably sharpened and strengthened, the implementational difficulties have also multiplied. Briefly, these are: (i) Up-to-date land records are not available; (ii) the beneficiaries of land reforms remain un-organised; (iii) the revenue administrative machinery which has, so far, been entrusted with the implementation of the land reforms is not adequate for speedy implementation; (iv) the civil courts dealing with the enforcement and interpretation of the land laws have created more legal hurdles. To overcome some of these difficulties, the draft fifth five-year plan has suggested that the land records should be updated and continuously revised; that land reform committees with substantial representation of beneficiaries should be set up and vested with the powers to implement the reforms; that an efficient administrative machinery operating at the village, tehsil, district and State levels should be set up; that the civil courts should be replaced by itinerary land reform tribunals for delivering justice at the door
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ECONOMIC SCENE

- UNCTAD-V
- Import Policy, 1979-80
- Cow Economics

UNCTAD-V

Q. Write a note on UNCTAD-V.

Ans. The one and a half decade spanning the first (1964) and the fifth (1979) sessions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has nothing but a bleak progress report. The Central theme of the Manila meet of UNCTAD-V broadly relates to the restructuring of the global economy. This encompasses the problem of trade and development, transfer of technology, protectionism and energy. Mr Gama ni Correa, UNCTAD Secretary-General, called for the establishment of a mechanism which would take account of the recognised inter-dependence of issues in the fields of trade, development, money and technology.

One of the most crucial questions facing the erstwhile 'Group of 77' (now comprising 159 developed, developing and socialist nations) is to ensure development of the third world countries. For this, the only way out for the less developed countries (LDCs) is industrialization. It is here that the question of trade and/or aid assumes great importance. For, development signifies growth with stability and more equitable economic order.

Growth requires domestic resources in plenty and where they are inadequate in LDCs,

recourse is taken to imports of capital goods and technology from the developed countries (DCs). To finance imports, a matching flow of exports is necessary. Otherwise, the goal of self-reliance sought to be achieved by LDCs will ever remain elusive.

This subsumes the dismantling of the barriers of protection against imports from the developing world. Not only that. The developed nations must adopt an open door policy and encourage imports of manufactures from LDCs on non-reciprocal basis. Protectionism, it must be recognised, is not in the long-term interest of DCs. The United States and West Germany, however, insist on the use of the market forces rather than measures devised by governments to bring about structural changes in the world production and trading pattern.

The whole gamut of experience of the third world countries is that the developed nations have been paying only lip-service to the principle of de-protection. In practice, the industrialised nations have consistently practised protectionism on the plea that their economies are in the grip of a recession. Dr Kurt Waldheim observed in his message to UNCTAD-V: "The re-structuring of international economic relations through the international economic order need not await the recovery, of the developed world". On the

contrary, its implementation will expedite the recovery and help place the world economy on more viable and dynamic footing.

One redeeming feature that UNCTAD-V may gloat over is the \$ 750 million commodity fund. None of the DCs has (upto the time of writing this note) pledged its contribution to the second window funded for \$ 350 million.

Transfer of technology from the DCs to the developing economies is a big drain. UNCTAD secretariate has estimated that the use of patents, licences, know-how and trade marks, will involve a payment by LDCs of the order of \$ 9 billion (Rs. 7,200 crore) in 1980s.

UNCTAD-V may reiterate that the target of aid equal to 0.7 per cent of the national income of developed countries be fulfilled. The OPEC should also make compensatory aid to the most severely affected countries to help them tide over the energy crisis following the oil price hike.

The wide-ranging nature of issues to be deliberated upon in UNCTAD-V are bound to have a major impact on international economic policy throughout the decade to come. Mr Correa claimed that he would provide a framework for the third development decade strategy for the 1980s.

The success of UNCTAD-V depends on the co-operation, and not confrontation, between the developed nations, on the one hand, and the developing countries, on the other. It can be achieved expeditiously if the developing nations adopt a more co-operative approach among themselves so that it becomes a force to be reckoned with.

Import Policy, 1979-80

Q. "The new import policy has all in all been a marked success". Comment.

Ans. The new import policy, 1979-80, announced on May 3 last, is an extension of the last year's policy. There is hardly anything new in it. The new import policy is thus the re-iteration of the government's resolve for stability and an assurance to the investors of imported inputs and export-oriented industries for continuity in their ventures. It confirms a profound change of policy providing the facility to import raw materials and spare parts and encourages updating the technology with the help of foreign technical collaboration.

The policy has been yielding rich dividends right from its inception. Its keynote is liberalisation in imports. To be precise, it has been a policy of selective import of capital goods and relative freedom to update technology. The liberalised import of technology has, paradoxically, already resulted in a saving of a substantial amount of foreign exchange. That has also helped improve the investment climate and "infused a degree of optimism into the industry". This is clearly reflected in the higher growth rate of industrial output and lower capital cost of increasing the productive capacity.

Not only has production for domestic use gone up but the export-oriented industry has ex-

perienced a big boost. The restriction on imports of scientific and measuring instruments is a step towards indigenization and self-reliance especially when the technological developments of the past two decades has enabled many units to produce such instruments within the country. Instead of a blanket ban, an enumerative list of such restricted items would have been welcomed by the Indian producers.

The Permanent Review Committee suggested in the new import policy is regarded as a "boon" to the indigenous producers.

The policy of liberalisation of imports in the face of the growing protectionism by the industrialised world is deemed as an act of courage. It would be more realistic to say that import liberalisation has been rendered possible only because of the comfortable foreign exchange situation for three years in a row and possibly, because of its continuance in the future.

The new import policy is welcomed in trade and industry circles as a step in the right direction. It would have been better if more items had been decanalised or actual users had been permitted to import freely. The coverage of items required for export production would have been more broad-based. The policy would help curbing the speculative tendencies.

Cow Economics

Q. Examine the question of a ban on cow slaughter from an economist's point of view.

Ans. The proposition of imposing a ban on cow slaughter has been the subject of controversy from times immemorial. The most recent occasion which triggered off the controversy was the fact that Acharva Vinoba Bhawe had demanded, almost at the point of bayonet, as it were, by undertaking a fast unto

death that West Bengal and Kerala States should fall in line with the rest of the country and impose a "total ban" on cow slaughter. This rocked the whole nation into thinking *de novo* on the subject. The problem has constitutional, legal, sociological, political and economic facets. The discussion on one aspect in isolation of the others will not give a correct perspective. Yet, the economic aspect dominates and is covered here.

India is predominantly an agricultural country and, therefore, the Indian Constitution made a specific provision (Article 48) for "preserving and improving the breeds and prohibiting the slaughter of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle". With small and fragmented holdings sprawling all the country over, mechanised farming is an exception rather than a rule. Bovine cattle is used as draught animal power required for land cultivation and transport of goods. Milch cattle is a provider of milk and meat for human consumption, besides other products like hides and skins which constitute an important foreign exchange earner for India. Banning cow slaughter amounts to interference with the dietary habits of the people and deprivation of many from the nutritious food (beef) which enters into their consumption. (This argument is, of course, unmindful of the sentiments.)

The cow dung and urine can be gainfully used to manure the farms. Needless to add that this manure is considered superior to the artificial or chemical fertilizers. The cow dung also serves as the cheapest fuel which is, of course, of less productive use. It is being increasingly used for producing 'gobar gas' which is a multi-purpose product.

(Contd on page 806)

Espionage and Role of Foreign Money

Looking through key-holes to find out what one's neighbour is doing, and the posting of spies in various disguises to find out what a neighbouring country is doing for defence and security, are age-old practices. With the advance of science and the subtle understandings, secret pacts and alliances, spying and espionage have increased, and also the forms and techniques of such practices. The crude methods of olden days are gone, and they have been replaced by scientific devices, sophisticated techniques, highly polished but innocent looking personnel, equipment and gadgets.

Like crime in the modern age, espionage has also progressed beyond imagination and to levels considered impossible only a decade ago. The time of which Bernard Shaw spoke—one during which it was “a perfectly simple thing to look through key-holes” is gone. Nowadays spying is done even by air—through photo reconnaissance satellites. In October, 1978, President Carter admitted that photo reconnaissance satellites have become “an important stabilising factor in world affairs. According to him, these satellites make an immense contribution to the security of all nations. The U.S.A., he conceded, would continue to develop them.

Obviously, what the U.S.A. is doing and has decided to do is also being done or planned by the other Big Power—the Soviet Union. Consequently, the world is now witnessing a race not only in armaments and the

development of more sophisticated aircraft but also in the devices for bugging spying and espionage. Ironically, the advance in civilisation and science is matched by the advance in spying techniques and also in the extent of such international activity—all in the name of national security.

In the modern age the USA apparently leads the world in espionage activity in respect of extent, coverage and sophistication, though the Soviet Union is not far behind in this sphere. In recent exposures also the U.S.A. has come under fire to a much greater degree, because of the deeds or rather the misdeeds, of the notorious secret agency—Central Intelligence Agency, the C.I.A. which has spread its net far and wide in the developing and the backward countries, and even in some advanced rival countries. It has recently been discovered that behind almost every American international activity lies a secret motive. Aid and trade, and of course military alliances and unpublished understandings, the global strategies, the ideological battles (especially those designed to check the growth of Communism) are all motivated by the innate desire to probe the other countries' minds in order to promote American interests. Staggering amounts have been spent by the U.S. Government in a bid to check or contain Communism in India and other countries.

A series of prescriptions have been drawn up to achieve this aim. Interference in another

country's internal affairs and a more active role in influencing its economic and other development plans is very much a part of the U.S. strategy. A leading American authority who had much to do with secret activity, Mr George Rosen, wrote in the early seventies: “The U.S.A. must play a more active role in influencing Indian plans and implementation policies on development. It must try to use its instruments of aid and trade to stimulate the policies it (U.S.A.) think desirable.....”

Military missions attached to embassies, or sent for establishing contacts carrying on negotiations, also play a significant role. A secret U.S. Defence Department directive to heads of Military Missions abroad stated: “Military missions, even though they are not official organs of Intelligence because of the duties the military personnel have to perform, are organisations which have ample opportunities of obtaining intelligence of high value for the U.S.A.”

The C.I.A. has, in fact, become notorious for all sorts of subversive activities, including the overthrow of Governments and Prime Ministers who do not toe the American line; and encouragement to parties and agencies working in opposition to Government which are anti-U.S. Actually, since the late 1940s the U.S.A. has deliberately chosen to use subversion of Governments through the C.I.A. as a purposeful weapon. The C.I.A. gathers information and employs about 40,000 employees

who act as operatives overseas. It claims several successes, including the overthrow of Prime Minister Mossadeq of Iran and after a few years, of Patrice Lumumba in Africa. It has caused much trouble in Latin America. But the C.I.A. has also met with several notorious failures in spite of the billions of dollars it has spent. Its failures include those in Laos, the U-2 affair, Cuba and Vietnam.

For many years, because of its political and strategic importance, enhanced by specific, technical and economic reasons, India has increasingly loomed large as the focus of the U.S.A.'s global strategy. The direct and most concrete evidence came through the increasing U.S. aid during the time of Nehru, and later of Mrs Gandhi, until the later phase. PL-480 funds became the most outstanding evidence of such aid. The CIA is also accused of provoking clashes among groups, encouraging linguistic divisions and furtively spreading discord. In its fight against leftist and progressive elements the CIA has always encouraged reactionary and right-wing forces, manipulating local agents and even influential people, including journalists and Government officials, by offering them attractive allurements of various shapes. There has been large-scale infiltration of agencies, even governmental agencies; bribes are offered and accepted on a large scale and influential people, apart from intellectuals, "bought" at their own price. Thus such elements act as agents of U.S. imperialism, sometimes without knowing the masters they serve.

American money has come into India in large quantities through educational and research foundations fellowships also. There is also considerable backstage activity in the interests of American mono-

polies and multi-nationals, and even to humiliate the national pride of the people in the countries in which they operate. In the process some agents get exposed and are even jailed despite all the precautions the CIA takes to protect its agents. Perhaps the worst and most inhuman feature of CIA activity is that in the pursuit of its objects it does not value human life much; suspects and rivals are at times done to death. The dirty tricks it has played are numerous. The CIA also has occupational hazards. There have been cases of mental and nervous breakdowns in the agency's tension-ridden atmosphere.

A tell-tale, secret telegram sent by the then U.S. Ambassador, Mr Daniel Patrick Moynihan, to the then U.S. Secretary of State, Mr Henry Kissinger (of "Shuttle Diplomacy" fame) in September, 1974: ".....Mrs Gandhi's concern about American intentions is real and immediate. The news from the U.S. printed in the Indian press repeatedly confirms her worst suspicions and genuine fearsShe thinks we are a profoundly selfish and counter-revolutionary power.....She knows full well that we have done our share and more of bloody and dishonourable deeds"

Mr Moynihan, in his book "A Dangerous Place", published late in 1978 and excerpts from which were made public in India in March, 1979, made allegations that large amounts of money were given to Mrs Gandhi and the Indian National Congress in the 1960s to fight the general elections so as to keep the Communists out of power. Mrs Gandhi has naturally denied the allegation but the widespread impression is that it is correct and well-founded. During the Congress regime in India the CIA had ample field of activity. By 1967 there were

rifts in the ruling groups, and the CIA then fished in India's troubled waters, bribing individuals, groups and parties. The Asia Foundation, and the Ford Foundation for instance were channels for utilising American money for subversive propaganda.

There is no doubt that American money was used in the general elections held in India in 1967. The late Mr T.T. Krishnamachari confirmed that large amounts of PL-480 funds were withdrawn by American agencies just before these elections. The Government of India ordered an enquiry but the report of the enquiry has never been published. Substantial sums of money were believed to have been given to right-wing parties such as Swatantra and, according to some sources, even the Jan Sangha received such money. The 1967 Intelligence Report on foreign funds is believed to be a real bombshell.

If it is true that, besides the Congress, other parties also accepted American money, this may be the explanation for what is described as "a conspiracy of silence" among India's politicians. Mr Moynihan has stated that the CIA got involved in Indian politics through Mrs Gandhi. But this is an understatement. According to certain observers, there is hardly any prominent politician in this country who has not, directly or indirectly, benefited by American generosity. There have been Boeing pay-offs, "kick-backs", commissions, collaboration pacts etc. Invitations have been extended, and accepted, from friendship societies, multinationals, publishers and others.

If the CIA were to publish the full details of all its activities in this country, many skeletons would be exposed. The period following the Chinese War of

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Future of Nuclear Energy

The prospects of nuclear energy are now considered far from bright in view of the U.S.A.'s Three Mile Island accident and doubts have risen in many countries about the advisability of installing more nuclear plants to meet the growing needs of energy. The proposition under discussion is: "Nuclear Energy is indispensable for the progress of mankind".

Mr A: I am firmly of the view—and I am sure that all rational and realistic people will support me—that nuclear energy is not only indispensable for the progress of mankind but should be developed further to meet the fast growing requirements of industry, agriculture and also of homes and homesteads. For one thing, science and civilisation cannot go back; these must advance with the times, meeting the new challenges and coping with the ceaseless demands of the people. For another, there is no way out; I mean there are no viable and wholly practicable alternative: to nuclear power, especially because oil has now become prohibitive in price and, what is worse, regular and adequate flow of this vital fuel have now become uncertain as a result of the policies of the oil-producing countries (OPEC). The extent to which the advanced countries' power needs are met through nuclear generation is evident from the following figures: the installed nuclear power capacity in the U.S.A. the very country where an agitation has started against nuclear power stations—is over 53,000 mw which meets more than 12 per cent of that country's total requirements of electricity; moreover, installations are being arranged for a further 137,000 mw of nuclear power. This means that even if there are a few cancellations as a result of the latest anti-nuclear trends as a sequel to the Three Mile

Island mishap, substantial additional generation of nuclear energy is still very much on the cards. The same is true of West Germany where about 12 per cent of the requirements are met through nuclear energy. In Britain, which was perhaps the first country to set up a large nuclear power plant, the contribution of nuclear power to the total is 14 per cent. Proof that the plans for expanding the generation of nuclear power are proceeding apace also comes from France where, according to the latest estimates, more than 50 per cent of that country's total power requirements will be met by atomic plants. Other countries also have ambitious plans for nuclear power generation, though these have not yet materialised owing to certain problems. In these circumstances it seems futile to talk of doing away with nuclear power plants when we talk of progress of mankind.

Mr B: Mr A has claimed that nuclear power is indispensable and has implied that there can be no progress of civilisation without expansion of nuclear power. The prospects may seem attractive but I contend that the other side of the picture must be carefully examined before we make any irrevocable decision. Who can deny that the order of priorities has lately changed in many Western countries after the recent nuclear mishaps, thefts of nuclear material and the hazards

that such events have posed for humanity everywhere? Safety of human life and property is far more important than easy availability of electricity, and it is precisely this safety that is gravely endangered by the establishment of more and more nuclear power stations. In fact I feel amazed at the complacency that has developed among large sections of the people about nuclear energy, despite the fact that such plants interfere with the very structure of the earth and its atmosphere. Apart from the grave risks of explosions, to which nuclear scientists themselves have drawn attention, there is the constant danger of contamination of large areas of the earth through radioactivity. Radio activity adds greatly to the perils which mankind faces in the last quarter of the 20th century. No effective and sure protection is so far known against nuclear radiation. I feel that simply because nuclear power has become common in several countries, the horrors that even one explosion, leak or other mishap will bring about should not be ignored as mere remote possibilities. There is another aspect of the problem to which I would like to draw attention. The cost of nuclear establishments is very high and the backward countries which urgently need power for development purposes cannot afford this huge initial investment. Therefore they have to rely for the required finances and technology—not to speak

of the raw material especially plutonium, that is required for producing nuclear power—on foreign powers. This increases dependence on foreign powers which, sooner or later, begin to exploit their advantageous position and dictate their terms for continuous supplies of vital material. Is all this consistent with national honour and dignity?

Mr C: I am not at all convinced by the arguments put forth by my predecessor, Mr B. Mr A gave some concrete examples of foreign countries which increasingly depend upon nuclear energy. I would like to strengthen the case for more nuclear power generation by giving India's example. Although our experience of the U.S.A. in respect of that country's assurances of continued supplies for the Tarapur plant under a regular contract has not been happy and we have, in fact, been badly let down by that power apparently for political motives—the Government has drawn up plans for setting up more nuclear plants. There is, in fact, a growing demand by several States for locating nuclear power stations. Let us examine the current position first. India now has a 420 mw nuclear reactor in operation at Tarapur and a 220 mw unit in Rajasthan. Together the power produced at these two plants represents less than 2.5 per cent of the total electricity generating capacity. Compare the corresponding figures of nuclear power generation capacity of some other countries—53,000 mw for the U.S.A.; over 1,100 mw for Japan, more than 8,000 mw for the Soviet Union, Britain and France; even a small, insignificant country like Spain produces nuclear power amounting to 2,000 mw—over three times more than India's installed capacity. According to an official announcement by the Government of India, two more

nuclear power stations, and three more heavy water plants, are to be set up in the country by the Department of Atomic Energy (D.A.E.). Work on the two new power stations is to be taken up in the current year (1979-80) and 1982-83 respectively. They are expected to be commissioned by 1987-88 and 1990-91. The sites of these new power houses have not yet been disclosed because the other regions start making intense demands for locating such plants there. The establishment of a nuclear power station has, in fact, become a matter of prestige and there is a growing clamour for such installations which are regarded by most people as a panacea for the country's economic ills. The plans for fast nuclear power growth are likely to be pursued with greater earnestness following the assertion by the Director of Physics at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, on April 26 this year, that such growth is possible by avoiding the intermediate step of fast breeders. He has proposed a new scheme for using India's large thorium supplies, different from the three-stage strategy for nuclear development proposed by Dr Homi Bhabha about 25 years ago. Under the new plan, thorium would be converted into fissionable Uranium-233 by an accelerator (atom smasher). The U-233 thus prepared would be used with thorium as fuel in reactors of the type now in operation in Rajasthan. The annual report of the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India, for 1978-79 says that though atomic energy has never been entirely free from pulls and pressures of "realpolitik", the pressure has only strengthened further efforts for using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Thus India itself is expanding its nuclear power plants. Can there be more solid evidence to establish the proposition under discussion?

Mr D: My predecessor, Mr C, has argued that the country is going in for more nuclear plants. But he has not made any reference to the breakdowns, and the increasing threats of closures of the existing nuclear power installations, for one reason or another. The Tarapur power plant is facing a major crisis owing to the total uncertainty (verging on refusal) of U.S. fuel supplies; the Rajasthan atomic plant has been shut down repeatedly because of technical failures. Rajasthan has to rely on Bhakra power to meet the recurring crises. The Government of India's nuclear energy programme has been facing several difficulties lately; both external and internal pressures account for this. The sharp escalation in costs has further dampened the enthusiasm of the advocates of such power generation. The approved cost of the Madras Atomic Power Station has been revised from Rs. 62 crore (first unit) to Rs. 168 crore, and of the second unit from Rs. 71 crore to Rs. 163 crore. The approved cost of both units of the Narora Atomic Power Plant is Rs. 270 crore and it is now being revised to 312 crore. The costs of maintenance have also gone up tremendously. Is it fair or a sign of wisdom, I ask, to set up such expensive plants, presumably with foreign financial and technical collaboration, and with such growing uncertainties regarding their future? Some time ago there was talk of reliance on Soviet supplies of nuclear fuel, but on realising that Russia, too, would insist on "fullscope safeguards" and inspection by international agencies, just as the U.S.A. is doing, the offer was declined—and rightly. Why should we fall into foreign traps?

General Knowledge Test

Q. 1. Name the following:—

(i) King of Nepal; (ii) Prime Minister of Nepal; (iii) Prime Minister of U.K.; (iv) Prime Minister of Rhodesia; (v) Chief Minister of Bihar; (vi) Chief Minister of Meghalaya; (vii) King of Malaysia; (viii) Chief Minister of Mizoram; (ix) Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia; (x) India's Ambassador to Nepal.

Ans. (i) Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva; (ii) Surya Bahadur Thapa; (iii) Mrs Margaret Thatcher; (iv) Bishop Abel Muzorewa; (v) Ram Sunder Das; (vi) B.B. Lyngdoh; (vii) Sultan Ahmad Shah; (viii) Brig Thempunga Sailo; (ix) Josip Vrhovec; (x) N.P. Jain.

Q. 2. (a) On which date did President Sanjiva Reddy give assent to the Constitution (45th Amendment) Bill, re-numbered as the Constitution (44th Amendment) Act?

(b) How does this Amendment affect the citizens' right to property? Which Articles of the Constitution have been amended or deleted for this purpose?

(c) How does this Amendment place the citizens' right to life and liberty on secure footing?

(d) By which special provision made in the Constitution

vide this Amendment, the right of the media has been guaranteed?

(e) What amendment has been made in the provision regarding breakdown of the Constitutional machinery in States?

Ans. (a) April 30, 1979.

(b) Right to Property: The right to property ceases to be a fundamental right and is now only a legal right. For this purpose Article 19 has been amended and Article 31 deleted.

Property has been given express recognition as a legal right in that no person will be deprived of his or her property, save in accordance with the law.

It has, however, been ensured that this would not effect the right of the minorities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. Similarly the right to persons holding land for personal cultivation and within the ceiling limit to receive compensation at the market value has been ensured.

(c) Citizens' right to life and liberty: The citizens' right to life and liberty has been placed on a secure footing in that the power to suspend the right to move the court for the enforcement of a fundamental right cannot be exercised in respect of the fundamental right to life

and liberty. The right to liberty has further been strengthened by the provision that a law for preventive detention cannot authorise, in any case, detention for a longer period than two months, unless an advisory Board has reported that there is sufficient cause for each detention.

(d) Right of the media: By a special provision under Article 361A, the right of the media has been guaranteed to report freely and without censorship the proceedings in Parliament and the State Legislatures. This Constitutional protection, however, will not be available in respect of proceeding of secret sittings.

(e) Breakdown of Constitutional Machinery: The provision regarding the breakdown of the Constitutional machinery in the States has been amended to provide that a proclamation issued under Article 356 would be in force only for six months in the first instance. It cannot however exceed one year ordinarily.

Q. 3. Why are the following persons important figures in Indian history?—

(a) Kanishka-I; (b) Sankaracharya; (c) Krishnadeva Raya; (d) Mahavira; (e) Todar Mall.

Ans. (a) Kanishka-I: He was one of the greatest kings of ancient India (120-162 A.D.). He was a great warrior, a great empire-builder and the only ruler of India who had his territories even in Central Asia beyond the Pamirs. He was a tolerant king and a great patron of art and learning.

(b) Sankaracharya: (788-820 A.D.) He dedicated his life to philosophy. He had acquired a reputation as a formidable opponent in debate. He became a great scholar and philosopher and a leading exponent of Advaita Vedanta (nondualism). He wrote commentaries on the Bhagwad Gita, Upanishads and the Brahma Sutra.

During the course of his wanderings through the length and breadth of the country, he championed Brahmin orthodoxy and gave his unmitigated opposition to the Buddhist credo. To propagate his teachings, he established four great *maths* (monasteries), one each at Badrinath in the Himalayas, Puri in the east, Dvaraka in the west, and Sringeri in the south in Mysore (*Karnataka*). Sankara died when he was only 32.

(c) Krishnadeva Raya: He was the greatest king of the Tuluva dynasty and famous king of the most magnificent Hindu kingdom of Vijaynagar. He reigned during 1509-29. He was a very learned man, capable ruler and a great warrior.

(d) Mahavira: (599-527 B.C.): Mahavira, meaning "great hero" was a contemporary of Buddha, known as the 24th and the last *tirthankara* ("prophet") of the Jains. He is the founder of the present form of Jainism.

(e) Todar Mall: He was one of the *nau-rattans* (nine gems) in the Court of Akbar. He was the ablest and the most upright of the great imperialist officers. He was also a great

humourist. He is well known for the reorganisation of financial and revenue systems.

Q. 4. Give the nationalities of and the reasons why the following persons are famous:

(i) Michaelangelo; (ii) Christopher Columbus; (iii) Robespierre; (iv) Adam Smith; (v) William Caxton.

Ans. (i) Michaelangelo: *Italian.* He was a renowned artist, painter, sculptor, architect and poet—an all-round genius.

(ii) Christopher Columbus: *Italian.* He was a famous navigator who discovered America in 1498.

(iii) Robespierre: *French.* He was leader of the Jacobian party who took active part in the French Revolution.

(iv) Adam Smith: *British.* He is known as the father of the science of political economy. He is author of the famous book *Wealth of Nations*.

(v) William Caxton: *British.* He is known as inventor of printing press.

Q. 5. Fill in the gaps—

(i) The first President of the United States was—.

(ii) The Russian Revolution occurred in the year—.

(iii) The Headquarters of the U.N.O. is in the city of—.

(iv) The first President of the Indian Republic was—.

(v) The Magna Carta was signed in the year—.

Ans. (i) George Washington; **(ii)** 1917; **(iii)** New York; **(iv)** Dr Rajendra Prasad; **(v)** 1215 A.D.

Q. 6. Who are the authors of the following characters?—

(i) Shylock; (ii) Oliver Twist; (iii) Long John Silver; (iv) Tess; (v) Sancho Panza; (vi) Anna Karenina; (vii) Dr Zhivago;

(viii) Jeeves; (ix) Hercule Poirot; (x) James Bond.

Ans. (i) Shakespeare; **(ii)** Charles Dickens; **(iii)** R.L. Stevenson; **(iv)** Thomas Hardy; **(v)** Cervantes Saavedra; **(vi)** Leo Tolstoy; **(vii)** Boris Pasternak; **(viii)** P.G. Wodehouse; **(ix)** Agatha Christie; **(x)** Ian Fleming.

Q. 7. Mention the field of activity in which the following persons had/have earned their reputation:

(i) Ronald Amundsen; (ii) Annie Besant; (iii) Romain Rolland; (iv) Charles Chaplin; (v) Albert Einstein; (vi) Isaac Bashevis Singer; (vii) Herbert A. Simon; (viii) R.C. Boral; (ix) Sharda; (x) Kapil Dev.

Ans. (i) Exploration (He discovered the South Pole in 1912). **(ii)** Theosophy (She was President of the Theosophical Society of India). **(iii)** Literature (He is the author of *Jean-Christophe*). **(iv)** Film-acting (He was a great comedian). **(v)** Science (He is known for the Theory of Relativity). **(vi)** Literature (He won the 1978 Nobel Prize for Literature. He is a Polish-Jewish writer). **(vii)** Economics (He won the 1978 Nobel Prize in Economics for his pioneering research into the decision-making process within economic organisations). **(viii)** He is music director. He has won the Phalke award for 1978 for his "outstanding contributions to the cause of Indian cinema". **(ix)** Film-acting. She has won the Best Actress award for 1978. This is the third time she has won this award. **(x)** Cricket (He is a dashing all-round Indian cricketer).

Q. 8. What constitutes the natural boundary between:

(i) India and China; (ii) Britain and France; (iii) France and Spain.

Ans. (i) The Himalayas; **(ii)** The English Channel; **(iii)**

The Pyrenees Mountains.

Q. 9. What type of climate produces: (i) hot, wet forests; and (ii) grasslands?

Ans. (i) The Equatorial type climate, in which the temperature remains high all the year round but does not vary very much, produces hot, wet forests.

(ii) The Tropical climate produces grasslands which are found on either side of the equatorial belt where the rainfall usually occurs soon after the sun has been shining vertically while the dry season occurs in the colder part of the year.

Q. 10. What is the difference between: (i) a comet and a meteor; and (ii) a hurricane and a typhoon?

Ans. (i) **Comets and Meteors:** Comets are luminous celestial bodies moving round the sun whereas Meteors are small pieces of solid matter which appear in the earth's atmosphere as "shooting stars" from outer space and become visible through incandescence caused by the resistance or the air to its passage.

(ii) **Hurricanes and Typhoons:** Strong winds or violent storms whirling round the centre or "eye" of the storm with a counter-clockwise motion in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern are known as *Hurricanes* in the West Indies, and *Typhoons* in the China Seas.

These violent storms are caused by difference in temperature and may follow along the line where cold and warm currents meet. The hurricanes moving off the coast of the United States occur where the Gulf Stream and the Cold Wall meet. The typhoons of the Pacific occur along the course of Japan Current (Kuro-Siwo).

Q. 11. (a) What is the estimated temperature of the earth's core?

Ans. The estimated temperature of the earth's core is in the neighbourhood of 3000°C at the boundary of the core and near 4000°C at the Centre of the earth.

(b) What is Neap Tide?

Ans. **Neap Tide:** When the tides are at the lowest heights, these are called Neap Tides. This phenomenon occurs midway between the new and full moon when the sun and the moon are at right angles as to their direction from the earth.

(c) What is a Nautical mile?

Ans. **Nautical mile:** It is a unit of distance used in navigation—one minute of longitude measured along the equator. A nautical mile is approximately equal to 6,080 feet.

Q. 12. (a) In which State in India are the following found?

(i) diamond; (ii) zinc ore; (iii) lignite; (iv) gold; (v) monazite.

Ans. (i) Madhya Pradesh; (ii) Rajasthan; (iii) Tamil Nadu; (iv) Karnataka; (v) Kerala.

(b) Mention any six sources of energy available in the world today.

Ans. Petroleum (crude); coal; hydro-electric; nuclear; solar; geothermal.

(c) Mention the location of at least six oil refineries in India.

Ans. **Oil Refineries:** (1) Barauni (Bihar); (2) Nunamati (Assam); (3) Koyali (Gujarat); (4) Cochin (Kerala); (5) Trombay (Maharashtra); (6) Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh).

Q. 13. In which States are the following located and why are they well-known?

(i) Amarnath; (ii) Ellora; (iii) Fatehpur Sikri; (iv) Lothal; (v) Bharatpur.

Ans. (i) **Amarnath:** situated at a height of about 13,300 ft. in Kashmir is a place of pilgrimage for the Hindus.

(ii) **Ellora:** in Aurangabad (Maharashtra State) is famous for wonderful Buddhist cave temples richly ornamented with sculpture and carved with paintings of exceptional skill.

(iii) **Fatehpur Sikri:** 32 km. from Agra is the city built by Emperor Akbar in 1569 which now stands deserted.

(iv) **Lothal:** is an ancient town, situated on the sea-plain of former Saurashtra. The excavations made here represent the Indus-Valley culture.

(v) **Bharatpur:** is a town in Rajasthan famous for its historic fort.

Q. 14. Name the following:

(i) A sanctuary for rhinoceros in India.

(ii) Location of headquarters of the Geological Survey of India.

(iii) A recent man-made chemical (which does not exist under natural conditions).

(iv) Location of an atomic power station in India.

(v) An important centre for the manufacture of electronic equipment in India.

Ans. (i) Manas Sanctuary (Assam).

(ii) Calcutta

(iii) Gane

(iv) Tarapur Atomic Power Plant, 80 km. north of Bombay.

(v) Bharat Electronics Limited, Jalahalli, Bangalore.

Q. 15. Name any three ethnic races of man and the continents associated with each of them.

Ans. (i) **Maoris** (original inhabitants of New Zealand).

(ii) **Bedouins** (nomadic tribesmen inhabiting the deserts in the Arab countries and West Asia).

(iii) **Zulus** (negroid people in Natal, South Africa).

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Argumentative Questions **ON** **CURRENT PROBLEMS**

- **The Right to Know**
- **Money and Power**
- **Backward and Forward**
- **Nepal Referendum**

The Right to Know

Q. "The secrecy in Government seriously restricts the availability of information and adversely affects democracy in India." Do you accept this view? Give reasons *For* and *Against* it.

Ans. All the guarantees of free speech and of a free press sound meaningless because of the needless restrictions on the access to information about several matters concerning the nation. The Government functions, by and large, in an atmosphere of hush-hush and secrecy; it denies information even on matters which should be common knowledge. The absurd limits to which this tendency is carried in this country become evident when we find that information which the Government denies to people is readily available to everyone through foreign newspapers and in foreign libraries, especially the U.S. Congress Library. Isn't the Government making a fetish of secrecy under the disguise of public interest? Will public interest not be promoted, instead of being harmed, if the people are taken into confidence about vital matters in which they are naturally interested?

Arguments For the view

1. Secrecy obviously diminishes, and at times even makes

nonsense of, democracy of which we boast so much. A political party may secretly harm national interests in the absence of an open debate and yet escape the consequences. Such eventualities should be foreseen and forestalled.

2. The whole concept according to which executive officials claim the right to withhold information even from M.P.s and other leaders of public opinion by contending that it is "classified" is ill-founded and should be open to question.

3. The U.S. Supreme Court, in the famous case *New York Times vs VUS*, while rejecting the Government's plea, ruled that only a free and unrestrained press could effectively expose deception in Government and that it is one of the paramount duties of a free press in a free country to prevent the Government from deceiving the people. The word "security", the Judge said, is broad and a vague generality whose contours should not be exploited to abrogate the fundamental right of the freedom of speech. He expressed the view that even guarding the military and diplomatic secrets at the expense of informed representative Government provides no real security.

4. It is obvious that whenever a government does not trust the people, the people, in turn, will not trust the Government; as the famous saying goes, trust begets trust. In fact, there is strong public opinion that secrecy is detrimental to the country's interests because it is often used by the ruling party to protect its own political interests and hide its errors, including corrupt practices, nepotism and favouritism.

5. Besides, the right to withhold information permits the Government to mould public opinion so as to promote party interests; for instance, by regulating the flow of information and releasing it only when it suits its own purposes, rather than the national interests.

Arguments Against

1. Secrecy, as a famous philosopher said, is inherent in every bureaucracy. In fact, it is regarded as a functional necessity and an essential right without which no Government can carry on its work. The fact remains that secrecy is essential in military and diplomatic matters. Diplomacy cannot be conducted openly; publicity during critical negotiations would defeat the very purpose of diplomacy.

2. In Britain the Officials

Secrets Act covers several spheres of activity, publicity to which would undermine the security of the State and protection to Government officials. It is not without reason that disclosures of vital information and publication of official documents is prohibited until such time as public knowledge of these matters is deemed safe in the national interest. Besides, under the 30-year rule in Britain more than a generation has to elapse before the citizens are allowed to know the reasons and the factors that governed the determination of a particular policy line.

3. For reasons of the security of the State and for saving individuals from untimely disclosures, restrictions have been imposed on the publication of memoirs by Ministers who are eager to disclose their experiences of government even by referring to Cabinet decisions and discussions which they are bound by the oath of secrecy.

4. While it is true that much official information is not openly given, a great deal of it is disclosed in Parliament in response to questions and in Minister's speeches. The numerous White Papers, Government reports and documents all contain information about departmental functioning and policy matters. Official briefings and Ministers' Press conferences also provide considerable information. Must the common man be told all the secrets of Government?

5. Disclosure of vital information will prejudice the country's interests and even national safety because enemy agents, spies and foreign embassies will exploit the vital facts. Any Government that does not safeguard its archives would be held guilty of national betrayal.

Money and Power

Q. "Economic power is the basis of all political power." Give arguments For and Against this view.

Ans. The close links of economic power with political domination have been known for ages; everyone believes—and rightly—that only those who control the purse strings can hope to wield political power. There can seldom be a case of a pauper or a person with limited means exercising considerable authority and influence. In other words, the power over finance leads, sooner or later, to other kinds of power, especially political power. It is true that political power in a democracy stems largely from the ballot-box, and that the voters are the ultimate arbiters of the politicians' destiny, but the question is: Who are the people who can win over the electorate? Either demagogues, powerful speakers and orators, or those who can spend large amounts of money during elections to woo the voters. Poor people cannot hope to sway the electorate even if they can deliver good speeches and make pathetic, soul-stirring appeals. But there is also the other side: rich people may spend massive sums of money in a bid to buy votes, but the voters of today cannot be misled or swayed by the lure of gold. They have become enlightened and can discriminate between the genuine and the fake.

Arguments For the view

1. A study recently conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration has established that possession of wealth is the *de facto* passport to political power. Such rich people and industrial houses have direct access to the seats of authority; they influence the choice of people who are to become the top most executives

of the country.

2. Whenever, by a he oratory or person-to-person contacts, someone who is not wealthy does manage to get power, become a Minister or secures some other kind of authority, he is soon displaced by men (and women) of means. So it is true to say that economic power is the very basis of all political power.

3. Liberal means and methods are adopted by rich and prosperous people to win over those occupying high seats of power. They offer lavish hospitality, guest houses, the use of motor cars, offers of attractive jobs, foreign tours and lucrative sales agencies which ensure large incomes without much effort. When such temptations are offered, few human beings can resist them.

4. The fact that about 20 big industrial houses in India, including the Tatas, the Birlas, the Singhanias, the Mafatlals and the Modis, have been able to concentrate economic power in their own hands through the access they command to high sources of political power is proof of the thesis that money controls the seats of power.

5. Even when there is no direct and open exercise of political power by the wealthy, control of power in their favour comes through regulation and moulding of policy to suit the needs of large industrial houses and also through licences and permits and quotas of raw material. If this were not so, the industrial houses could not have become so large and so rich. It is estimated that during the dynamic decade of Mrs Gandhi the country's leading industrial houses increased their assets by over 200 per cent, in spite of all the talk of socialism, economic equality and lessening of the glaring economic disparities.

Arguments Against the View

1. Time was when the glitter of gold was everything. People could be bought and sold like chattels, and their actions could also be manipulated to suit the moods and needs of the rich. But with the progress of education and general enlightenment this is no longer possible except in very backward societies.

2. With the rapid progress of democracy what has been described as "the disastrous link between politics and industry and between money power and political power" is bound to weaken. It has also to be noted that the victory of the Janata Party in the 1977 elections was a victory of the people against immense wealth, including the use of large chunks of black money. Many of the Janata M.P.s and M.L.A.s did not spend much to win elections; they rode on the anti-Emergency wave, and men of ordinary means were able to defeat rich electoral contenders who were confident of sweeping the polls by virtue of their political influence based on economic power. So there is no guarantee at all that in future economic power alone will control political authority.

3. India's recent history shows that the reverse of the proposition is coming out to be true: political power begins to control economic power. Several politicians made a humble start; they had very limited means and held petty positions but gradually amassed wealth and thus started controlling power. Everyone is free in a democracy to earn money by honest means.

Backward and Forward

Q. "The categorisation of certain economically weak sections of the people into Backward Classes under the Constitution and

the grant of additional facilities to them should not be stopped and everyone should not have equal opportunities." Give arguments For and Against this view.

Ans. Under the Constitution of India (Article 14 in the chapter on Fundamental Rights) every citizen is equal before the law and is entitled to equal protection of the laws within the territory of India. But Article 15(4) empowers the Government to make special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A large number of people, about 20 to 25 per cent, are listed as belonging to the backward classes and have been given special privileges, through reservations and percentage quotas in recruitment to the services, in respect of admissions to educational institutions, promotions, etc., with the result that members of other communities, regarded as socially and economically advanced, are often denied opportunities which they feel are their due because members of the officially classified "Scheduled Castes and Tribes" get preference and often supersede others not on the basis of merit but simply on the basis of caste labels and affiliations. This practice is open to considerable objection and implies injustice to countless people. Besides, a vested interest has developed in being classified as "backward" even when the person concerned may be rich and well off both socially and economically.

Arguments For

1. People who are economically backward certainly deserve special consideration, otherwise they will never get a chance (at least most of them) to rise in life and become useful members of society. The social, educational and economic handicaps often prove crippling and soul-killing, and it is the

duty of the Government to promote their welfare.

2. The Constitution of India specifically requires the State to remove the backlog of backwardness through positive steps. In particular, the Directive Principles of State Policy recommend promotion of educational and economic interests of the backward classes and their protection from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. This explains the importance of the various measures enacted by the Government to ban bonded labour, denial of opportunities for worship and for drawing water from wells, etc.

3. A small group of people may have benefited unduly from the officially available concessions and privileges, but the fact cannot be denied that the vast majority of the people classified as belonging to backward classes are indeed poor and fully deserve patronage even at the cost of the other communities; otherwise they will never be able to reach the required level.

4. It is almost impossible to devise a fool-proof formula for describing economic and social backwardness. There are many grades and stages of such backwardness and each aspirant claims to have suffered more than the others. About 15 per cent of the country's population consists of Scheduled Castes but in no State do they hold more than 6 per cent of Class I jobs. A large number of them are landless labourers; others are engaged in petty jobs, with little hope of ever rising to respectable positions unless they get out-of-turn opportunities and promotions.

5. During the past 32 years since freedom much has been talked of about improving the lot of Harijans but very little has actually been done for them. The Constitutional guarantees have proved ineffective; so there is

no case for ending the system of reservations.

Arguments Against

1. Certain communities which are listed as Scheduled Castes in pursuance of Article 341 and 342 of the Constitution are still entitled to certain concessions and privileges because they were handicapped and needed special attention to bring them up to certain levels. Thousands of cases are known of people who have exploited their caste and class labels to secure certain gains undeservedly, resulting in grave injustice to others.

2. The confusion over the classification of backward classes has persisted and the Government has not so far laid down clear descriptions and clear, tangible criteria have not been prescribed, with the result that there is considerable misuse of this concession. Several commissions have been appointed to deal with the question, including the Backward Classes Commission headed by Kaka-sahib Kalelkar in January, 1953, to determine the criteria for classification. Owing to differences on the issue no definite recommendation emerged. The entire issue has become a scandal, and the earlier this misused system is abolished the better.

3. The sole criterion should be the economic condition, not cast or class. Poor and deserving people of all classes should be entitled to receive special privileges. The legal label has served its purpose and should be discontinued. It is unfair and obviously undemocratic.

4. The compensations for being classified as "backward" and belonging to Scheduled Castes are so lavish that many people deliberately get themselves listed thus, to wrongfully secure the gains at the cost of others. Cases are known of

wrong birth certificates, wrong entries of parentage etc. in order to become Scheduled Caste members or members of a backward, semi-educated class.

5. Each political party seeks to exploit the scheduled Castes and Harijans by assuring them more jobs and more concessions, wiping off of their debts—all at the cost of the majority community. Such practices should be discouraged, if not totally stopped in the wider national interests.

Nepal Referendum

Q. "The Nepal King's announcement that a referendum will soon be held to determine the views of the people will mean the establishment of a genuine democracy in that kingdom." Do you accept this view? Give reasons For and Against it.

Ans. For many weeks there were widespread disturbances in Nepal (the world's only Hindu kingdom and India's next-door northern neighbour) necessitating police firing and other emergency measures to maintain peace. As elsewhere, the students played a prominent role in the struggle for attaining the people's rights and fighting for democracy as against the long and often tyrannical rule of the monarch. Reading the writing on the wall and with the fate of the Iran's Shah very much in mind, King Birendra, in a momentous announcement on May 24, declared that the people would have the opportunity of deciding whether the existing partyless panchayat system, with suitable changes, should continue, or whether a multi-party system of government should be introduced. The announcement was hailed by several leaders as a historic and good step. Will the referendum lead to a genuine democracy in that country, or is it a mere ruse to buy time? The

political assessments vary, the conclusion depending upon whether the King's intentions are suspect and whether he does wish to part with power in favour of the people.

Arguments For Democracy

1. There need be no doubt that the King's intentions are genuine. He has given evidence of his farsightedness and sagacity by announcing a referendum of his own accord and giving the people an opportunity to decide the shape of the future government of the country. No time is being lost, and it is now known that the referendum will not be indefinitely delayed but will be held in September. An election commission has already been formed and the necessary preparations are being made to hold the referendum according to schedule.

2. Even the Opposition leaders and critics of the monarchy have stated that their faith in the King's sagacity and statesmanship has been vindicated. If the Opposition leaders, including the veteran freedom fighters and former Prime Minister, Mr B.P. Koirala had any doubts about the King's intentions, surely they would have expressed them. They know the King's mind better than others.

3. Nepal's old partyless panchayat system was evolved and established by King Birendra's father, King Mahendra, in the 1950s. The present ruler has not shown any tendency to resort to oppression and tyranny; he is a well-educated liberal-minded monarch and, according to reports, he intends to become a Constitutional Head of State and to let the people's representatives carry on the Government.

4. Events in the world today are moving too fast to enable any ruler to continuously deny democratic rights to the people. The King has acted shrewdly.

He has already granted the right of freedom of speech and of political activity to the people so that no one should have a sense of grievance that the necessary conditions for a free, fair and popular vote may be possible. Nor is there any evidence that the King will not accept the people's verdict, whatever it may be. It is almost certain that the people will opt for a full-fledged democracy and a multi-party system.

Arguments Against

1. The very fact that before announcing the referendum the King tried all sorts of oppressive methods, ordered the Army to fire on the crowds—an action in which 20 persons were killed during several demonstrations—shows that there is no basic change in the attitude of the King. Had he been democratically inclined, he would not have adopted such tactics of suppression. He even got executed two political leaders just on the eve of Mr Koirala's return to Nepal to serve as a warning to nationalists.

2. The King has actually been following a "carrot and stick" policy; he even ordered the re-arrest of Mr B.P. Koirala, a non-violent patriot and a former Prime Minister, on the startling charge that he instigated violence. The King evi-

dently bears a grudge against all those who have been demanding the establishment of democracy in Nepal and a sharp curtailment of the King's powers. The pro-King elements even launched a campaign to discredit Koirala in the public eye.

3. The introduction of a multi-party system in Nepal may mean a new phase of struggle; broadly the same groups of people who hold power in the existing panchayati system will emerge and hold the reigns. Nepal is a country where the masses are not yet politically awake and are conservative and tradition bound.

4. If, as is generally believed, the King will play a crucial role in Nepal's future set-up, those who hope for a truly democratic regime are bound to be disappointed. Monarchs have a tendency to stick to power, even while establishing institutions to create the deceptive impression of a popular framework.

5. The Nepal King, like his predecessor, skilfully played China and Pakistan against India and secured many generous concessions from New Delhi. He does not have the firm convictions of a democrat; else, he would not have resented the moves in India to give shelter to Nepali political refugees.

(iii) **Volley:** (*Volleyball*) When the ball is volleyed fast and above the net, it is a "volley".

(iv) **Checkmate:** (*Chess*) In the game of Chess, when the king cannot avoid being captured on the next move.

(v) **Grand slam:** (*Bridge*) When a player wins all the tricks, it is said to be a "grand slam"; also used in Lawn Tennis.

Q. 18. What are the National Sports of:

(i) United States of America; (ii) Spain.

Ans. (i) Baseball; (ii) Bull-fighting.

Q. 19. With what sports are the following associated?

(i) Swaythling Cup; (ii) Rangaswamy Cup; (iii) Durand Cup; (iv) Wimbledon; (v) Thomas Cup.

Ans. (i) Table Tennis; (ii) Hockey; (iii) Football; (iv) Tennis; (v) Badminton.

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General Knowledge Test

(Contd. from page 779)

Q. 16. What are the official languages of the United Nations Organization?

Ans. The official languages of the U.N.O. are: English, French, Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Spanish. *The working languages are English and French only.*

Q. 17. What do the following sports terms mean?

(i) Maiden over; (ii) Duck; (iii) Volley; (iv) Checkmate; (v) Grand slam.

Ans. (i) **M a i d e n o v e r:** (*Cricket*) When no runs are scored in an over, it is termed "maiden over".

(ii) **Duck:** (*Cricket*) A zero recorded in a scoring sheet showing that the player has not made any runs.

A Decalogue of Success

The distance does not matter; it is only the first step that is difficult.

—MARQUISE DU DEFFAND

Success is not like manna falling from heaven into your lap. It won't come to you by free gift. It will come to you if you have a sense of direction; if you know whither you are going; if you choose your goal consciously and realistically and take steps towards its attainment steadily and vigorously taking obstacles in your stride. Failure is the brand on the brow of the man who has a woolly mind, out of focus; who wobbles, drifts fuzzily and who falls prey to these "deadly" enemies of success—inertia, self-doubt, aimlessness and indecision.

There is no royal road to success. There is no single sure card for it. But it is possible to suggest certain recipes for it which bid fair to win it. These add up to ten forming a sort of decalogue of success. There is nothing magical or miraculous about these precepts. It is all hard-boiled stuff needing lots of guts.

Here is the decalogue of success. It will work, if you work:

1. Choose a clear-cut primary goal of your life: A goal is the end result which you seek—the object of your effort or ambition. You must pin-point your goal in life. It won't do to say, "I want to be happy" or "I want to make pots of money" or "I want to be a better person." You must determine exactly what you want. You need to say, "I intend to be a microbiologist in five years" or a Probationary Officer of the State Bank of India or an I.A.S. Officer, or Civil Engineer or a Chartered Accountant, in one,

two, four or five years. In other words you must have a definite goal to be attained within a defined period of time backed by a time-bound action-programme. Andre Maurois has aptly said, "Napoleon held that the art of war consisted of making oneself strong at a certain point; in life we must choose a point of attack and concentrate our forces there." He who wants to do everything will never do anything. It is useless and dangerous to choose an unattainable goal. Failure can undermine self-confidence and sap energy.

2. Caring like blazes: It is precious little use to pin-point a goal in life unless you want it passionately. Day-dreaming and wistful wishes will not ring the bell; there must be intense burning desire. Use your imagination to fan the flame of your desire and keep it white-hot. The two chief ingredients in the magic recipe of success are clarity of purpose and intensity of desire. Unless you care tremendously you won't get there. Dr Selman A. Waksman, winner of the Nobel Prize for the discovery of streptomycin (1952), says in his autobiography "My life with the Microbes": "But of one thing I am certain; of my life with the microbes. With them I spent my days and my nights. To them I devoted my energy and my thoughts. It is to them that I came in times of despondence, when I felt that the world had turned against me. It is to them that I came with my joys to share with them my glory and my accomplishment. I lived with them, I

almost shared their lives and activities."

3. Be patient: Paul Ehrlich used to refer to his formula for success as the four Gs: "Geduld, Geschick, Geld, Gluck" (patience, ability, money, luck). However, it was Geduld (patience) and Geschick (ability) which lifted Ehrlich to the top of his profession and won him the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1908, which he shared with Elie Metchnikoff. If one is impressed with any common denomination as one reads the lives of these great scientists it is their possession of natural ability coupled with the infinite patience born of hundreds of previous laboratory failures. Patience is a virtue, says an old saying. It is also the art of hoping. You must be patient and do not give way to despair. "Drops of water wear down stones", says Solzhenitsyn "but it takes time." ("The First Circle".)

4. Don't make alibis: Making an alibi won't help you. If you can move the blame from your shoulder, it will prevent you from doing your best. Says Herbert Casson, "So we may take it as a wise rule that when a man's business is doing badly he should blame HIMSELF. An alibi will not help him."

Stop short-circuiting yourself with alibis. Don't say, "The timing is wrong", or "I am not really qualified". Don't play the "if-only" game: "If I had more money, or more education or better circumstances.....if only I weren't so tied down..." Such alibis only feed self-doubt, inertia and drift. Give them a

wide berth. Don't be a slave of circumstances. G.B. Shaw once said, "I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who look for the circumstances they want, and if they can't find them, make them."

5. Be willing to accept setbacks—temporarily: People who have made it have one trait in common—persistence. They keep picking themselves up and returning to fight longer after most men have given up. They know how to accept defeat temporarily. The battle is not to the strong but to the persistent. Abraham Lincoln failed in business in '31. He was defeated in politics in '32. He failed once again in business in '34. He had nervous breakdown in '41. In '43 he hoped to receive his party's nomination but did not. He ran for the Senate and lost in '55, he was defeated again in '58. A hopeless loser, some said. But he was elected President in 1860. He knew how to accept failure temporarily. Failure must be seen as the need for further effort and toughening of the will.

Dr Christian Barnard who made history as pioneer in heart transplantation ascribes his success to persistence. "Stick to it and you will make it", was his father's advice to him. ("One Life" 1969).

6. Nothing stake nothing draw: Two younger men of equal abilities start in the world of industry. One remains stuck up in a small job all his life, while the other climbs to the top rung of the ladder in his industry. What made the difference? Just this, the one who was stuck up refused to pay the price of success. If you set your sights high, be prepared to pay a high price. You will have to work like a demon, take chances, make sacrifices and put up with set-backs. You can't afford

the luxury of laziness or delights of frequent distraction. Success is a jealous mistress demanding your whole-hearted devotion and commitment. It is not a piece of cake. "Human Life", says Rene Dubos, "implies adventure and there is no adventure without struggles and dangers."

7. Harness the unconscious mind: Freud compared the conscious mind to a fountain playing in the sun and falling back into the great subterranean pool of the sub-conscious from which it rises. The unconscious is a great dynamo but it is also a computer that has to be properly programmed. If worrying thoughts, anxiety thoughts, failure thoughts are constantly channelled into the subconscious, nothing very great is going to be sent back. But if a clear purposeful goal is steadily held in the conscious mind the unconscious will eventually accept it and begin to supply the conscious mind with plans, ideas, insights, brain-waves, and the energies necessary for the attainment of that goal.

8. Believe in the power of thought to change things: "There are no such things as idle thoughts" say A.G. Glasow. "All your thinking works either for good or bad. Positive thinking can make you stronger. Negative thinking is exhausting." Centuries ago King Solomon said, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Ideas are forces. With fire and faith you can forge ahead and move mountains. You must believe in the possibility of success. If a goal has been well chosen your powers will enable you to achieve it. As a French sage puts it, "The fool thinks everything is easy, and comes in for many rude awakenings, the sluggard believes all is impossible and undertakes nothing; the good workman knows that great things are possible and prudently little by little accom-

plishes them".

9. Don't play games: According to Dr Eric Berne, game is "a series of moves within a snare or gimmick". Every game has concealed motivation and is basically dishonest. It is antithesis of candidness. Liberation from playing games can be achieved by being autonomous. According to Dr Berne autonomy is manifested by the release or recovery of three capacities: awareness, spontaneity and intimacy. Awareness means living in here and now and not in the elsewhere, the past or the future. "Awareness means the capacity to see a coffee pot and hear the birds sing in one's own way, and not the way one was taught." Spontaneity means option, the freedom to choose one's feelings from the assortment available. It means liberation, liberation from the compulsion to play games and have only the feelings one was taught to have. Intimacy means the spontaneous genuine candidness of an aware person.

Autonomy means non-conformity—an indispensable ingredient in any formula of outstanding success. Robert M. Linder remarks, "Man is a rebel. He is committed by his biology not to conform." To win laurels in any field requires non-conformity or a dissatisfaction with the *status quo* or things as they are. It means that you have courage to think for yourself. In this capacity to think for yourself, to refuse to believe in humbug, lies the true motive force of all human progress.

10. Consider life a process: Life is a process. It is dynamic, not static. So is success. At no point can an individual say sincerely that he has "arrived".

Keep examining the pattern of your life. If at any time it goes out of focus, put it back

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The Competition Master



1. On Nuclear Weapons

These days when the two super-powers are engaged in developing more and more powerful nuclear weapons to destroy each other's striking capacity before it can be used against either, it would be pertinent to go through what the great apostle of non-violence had to say on the subject.

In 1946, soon after the atom bomb had been used against Japan to bring the second World War to a close, some Americans suggested to Gandhiji that the atom bomb would bring in *ahimsa* (non-violence) as nothing else could. They meant to convey that the destructive power of the atom bomb would so disgust the world that it will turn away from violence.

But Gandhiji rejected the thesis on the ground that even as violence cannot be destroyed by counter-violence, nuclear weapons cannot be destroyed with more nuclear weapons. He believed that once the effect of the disgust engendered by the use of nuclear weapons was worn out, the world would return to them with renewed zeal.

Regarding the use of the atom bomb against Japan, Gandhiji said, "The atom bomb brought an empty victory to the Allies, but it resulted for the

time being in destroying the soul of Japan. What has happened to the soul of the destroying nation is yet too early to see."

The apprehension expressed by Gandhiji has unfortunately proved very true. Over the last two decades and more, America and, in its wake the Soviet Union, goaded by the fear of annihilation by each other, have spent astronomical sums of money in building up and augmenting their nuclear arsenals, and as they have added more and more diabolical engines of destruction to their stocks, the feeling of a nightmarish existence has deepened instead of being relieved.

In Gandhiji's opinion, the invention of nuclear weapons had served to reveal the naked truth that war knows no law except that of might. It had deadened the finest feeling that had sustained mankind for ages. He regarded the employment of the atom bomb for the wholesale destruction of men, women and children as the most diabolical use of science.

The only way in which the world can, in Gandhiji's opinion, be rescued from the vicious circle of violence is that it should place its faith in moral and spiritual force represented by truth and non-violence rather than in the physical and material (and therefore, inferior) force represented by nuclear weapons.

2. Communal Harmony

According to Gandhiji, India belongs to all who are born and bred here. He held that religion is a personal matter which should have no place in politics. He attributed communal disharmony in India to the unnatural conditions of

foreign domination in which Indians had lived for a long time. He believed that once the country was free, the unnatural divisions created by religion would disappear. He wanted a living friendly contact—a union of hearts among the followers of all religions, and described all attempts to establish the superiority of one faith over another as fruitless and misguided. The hopes he entertained have, however, been belied. With the passage of time, communal incidents have increased. Instead of friendly contacts being established among the followers of various religions, communal differences have been coming out on the surface in an increasing measure. One of the reasons for this state of affairs may be that while we pay lip-service to secularism, we have not become truly secular in our outlook. We still think of the people of India as Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs etc. We seldom think of ourselves as Indians. As long as we persist in that attitude, Gandhiji's dream will remain unrealized.

"Should we forget our humanity and return a blow for a blow? If some misdirected individual took it into his head to desecrate a temple or break idols, should a Hindu in return desecrate a mosque on that account? Did it in any way help to protect the temple or to save the cause of Hinduism?God resided everywhere, no less in stock or stone than in a single hair on the body of man....."

—SELECTIONS FROM GANDHI

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade examinations. Thoughts of certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

Drink and youth are fire upon fire.

Youth is the time when a man hitches his waggon to the star. Sleep or wake, working or resting he imagines himself climbing the hills, crossing the seas or soaring to the clouds and singing at the heaven's gate. No hurdle is too big, no heights are unscalable. An unearthly fire burns in him which impels him forward. It is the time to go flashing from one end of the world to the other, both in mind and body. Even as it is the horse of youth knows no curb or bit. And when the whip of wine is used, it is like the flight of Pegasus that caused fountain Hippocrene to flow on Mt Helicon. The fire inside is kindled manifold. He who was only dreaming of scaling the Everest has already scaled it. Let a hurdle come his way he would crush it to smithereens, even though in the process he damages himself. A youthful driver under the influence of strong drink will ride roughshod over cyclists and scooterists and end up by breaking his own bones. Statistics tell us that murders and dacoities have behind them the demon of wine-catching youth by the throat. Youth is perpetual intoxication, wine maddens it.

Politicians are the sacred white elephants of our era.
(J.B. Priestley 1957)

Democracy has been enthusiastically, though justly, praised

as a form of government which combines freedom with justice. Actual experience, however, has disillusioned even the most sanguine admirer. Democracy has begun throwing up a race of rulers who, barring an instance here or there, are less than mediocre, both intellectually and morally. They are in politics because society did not find them competent enough for anything else. An engineer or a doctor, a teacher or a lawyer has to undergo a long period of discipline and training before he is entrusted with the job. A politician, however, is born overnight. The goddess Minerva came out of Jupiter's head, full-grown and well-armed. The average has a similar and abrupt birth. Only the head is the Devil's. Chicanery, hypocrisy, mendacity, apostasy—these go to make the common cry of politicians. It is good that there is a bureaucracy which carries on the administration while these politicians play their favourite game of permutation and combination. And at what tremendous cost to the exchequer, particularly in a poor country like India. Romses may burn but these Neros must fiddle away their time. The country may be getting pauperized but they must be pampered. What a cruel irony!

A full cup must be carried steadily.

To grow rich and remain wise is given to few men and women. Prosperity has a way

of going to a man's head and disturb his equilibrium. The desire to show off is the immediate result. "Carelessness born of affluence" is a common cliché. Sobriety is cast to the winds, sobriety in eating, in dress, in amusements. Let it be but a birthday (eighty-fifth of the grand father) and wines and victuals are consumed in reckless measures. A marriage is a much bigger affair. Ostentation grips the minds of the celebrants. What could have fed a thousand citizens is squandered by one-tenth that number. How much precious food goes down the drain. As for clothing, in this land it is always a fashion parade or a beauty-contest. It is a perpetual feast of colour and music. No one seems to realize that all this is a cruel mockery of the squalor and misery that surrounds. The millions of semi-starved and semi-naked countrymen who are watching this orgy of extravagance with jealousy and anger will burst forth like lava out of a crater and the resulting fires will consume all this splendour. If we cannot help the poor, at least we should not insult them.

The dagger plunged in the name of Freedom is plunged into the breast of freedom.

(Jose Marti 1942)

Sword has rarely proved a good arbiter of disputes. Any settlement achieved with its help has no enduring value. After all it means the conquest of the

(Contd. on page 790)

1. "The Bane of Intolerance"

Intolerance, says the Oxford English Dictionary, is the disposition to be impatient with the opinions or practices of others. Over the centuries this earth of ours has experienced horrors and atrocities perpetrated by man on his brother man all because of religious, racial, political or economic fanaticism. It is a long tale which makes the flesh creep and the hair stand on end.

*It grieves my heart to think
What man has made of man.*

No loss by flood and lightning, no destruction of cities and temples by the hostile forces of nature has deprived man of so many noble lives and impulses as those which his intolerance has destroyed.

Europe has particularly been a gross sinner in this direction. The early Christians were subjected to every kind of torture. The Roman Empire, for all its splendour and affluence, behaved barbarously towards Christians. The irony, however, is that when the Holy Roman Empire was established it was no less tyrannical towards the non-conformists. Then came the crusades, the wars between the cross and the crescent. The monster of intolerance wanted still more blood and that was provided by the hostilities between Roman Catholics and Protestants. Christ must have turned in his grave that those

who swore by his name flew at one another's throat.

Political intolerance has been no less blood-thirsty. The Dictators of the Twenties and Thirties squeezed out their opponents and critics. The Nazis under Hitler exterminated millions of Jews after torturing them in concentration camps and gas chambers. What Americans did in Japan and what the Japanese did in China and what the Chinese have done in Cambodia has been nothing but a devil-dance prompted by the demon of intolerance. The latest to arrive on the scene are some of the nascent states of Africa, Uganda for example, where intolerance has run riot.

India has been comparatively free from this bane. The entire history of our culture has been one of synthesis born out of sweet reasonableness. When the early Aryans encountered the Dravidians, they came to an amicable understanding and give-and-take. Out of this give-and-take Hinduism was born which has lived down the centuries in a frame of mind so beautifully described in the Sanskrit *Sloka* "As the different streams having their sources in different places all mingle their water in the sea, So O Lord, the different paths which men take through different tendencies, various though they appear, all lead to Thee." And the Lord

reciprocates this sentiment "Whosoever comes to me, through whatsoever form I reach him."

It is because of this tolerance that the prophets and reformers have enjoyed utmost liberty. Buddha denounced the Vedas and the ritualism of the Brahmins but he had his say, unrestricted and unfettered. He lived up to the ripe age of eighty. When Buddhism had spread all over the North, there came Shankaracharya from the South, and drove out Buddhism, not by the sword but by argument and discussion.

The healthy tradition so established has gone on and Hinduism has listened to and absorbed the teachings of Kabir, Nanak, Ram Mohan Roy, Dayanand and a host of reformers. That speaks volumes for the Hindu spirit of tolerance.

The political counterpart of tolerance is the democratic spirit. If England has been the cradle of democracy in India it has come of age. Those who preached and practised the cult of personality the other day failed to realize that they were running counter to the spirit of Indian culture. "It was a grievous fault and grievously have they answered it."

European civilization has so many plus points but tolerance is not one of them. That it can learn from India.

2. "Let us educate our rulers"

Disraeli after a General Election was distributing portfolios among the members of

his cabinet. When it came to the Secretaryship of Colonies, none was ready to shoulder it.

Disraeli, then took over the portfolio himself and asked an official, "Please let me know

where our colonies are."

Much water has flowed under the Westminster Bridge since then. Ministers in England come to their jobs fully informed and posted. Political parties have their shadow cabinets to jump in when the need arises. When the call comes they are not found wanting.

We in this country are new to the game. Parliamentary democracy is a recent arrival and so many of our rulers have yet to find their feet. Administration is no child's play and quite often the ministers become the play-things of bureaucrats who are veterans in their respective fields. No wonder there is a trial-and-error in allocations of portfolios. In one State a particular portfolio changed hands nine times in the course of one year. What happened in the Department is anybody's guess.

Our rulers, therefore, must be selected with an eye on their intellectual and mental equipment. As things stand today, cabinets are formed to give representation to various castes and communities. Ours is a caste-ridden society and our political parties instead of putting their face against caste have followed the easier path of exploiting it. Tickets are distributed, openly and unashamedly, keeping count of the Jat vote, Baniya vote, Brahmin vote, Ahir vote, Harijan vote. The part becomes more important than the whole. No wonder that sectarianism, casteism, sectionalism, linguism, provincialism, in fact every issue is thriving except nationalism. Minister-ship in a democracy is an opportunity for service to the nation. But as things obtain today, it has become highly attractive because of its plums. Good emoluments, even a life-pension, free accommodation and travel, limitless electricity and tele-

phone bills, who would not plump for these coveted chances? For this party loyalty is sacrificed, conscience is surrendered, yes-man-ship reigns supreme. It was a member of such a tribe who was asked "What will you do if you are elected? Pat came the reply "That is not my worry. I am worried what I shall do if I am not elected."

Gandhiji had advocated extreme simplicity for the ministers. After all service does not go hand in hand with luxury and ease. But these people are there for power and the pelf it brings. Every other day we read in the papers about the payoff and corrupt practices. The Shah Commission has unveiled sordid deeds of Khadi-clad ministers. No wonder Pt Nehru had said, "It is not the cap that matters, it is what is underneath the cap."

A word may be said about the sense of discipline that these people have been able to muster. "Give me ministership or I shall bring down the house." It is invariably self before service with them. The other day the Labour Ministry in England lost by one vote and in consonance with democratic procedure tendered their resignation forthwith. Judged by our standards it was silly on the part of the Prime Minister Callaghan. We are past masters in horse-trading. Our loyalties are so convenient. The man who is so vehement in applauding Mr A in the morning is equally, or even more, vehement in denouncing him in the evening. It is of such weather-cock stuff that we are made.

What we need is a complete metamorphosis, a Kaya Kalpa. Gandhiji's ideology, his concept of democracy is so relevant today. If the rot that has overtaken our body-politic is not arrested it will pose a danger to our democracy. The tribe of

intellectual nit wits, moral bankrupts and spiritual corpses must be weeded out. Fortunately we have some real patriots at the helm of affairs. They must set about this difficult task right now.

There is, however, the danger that Gresham's law may work and the baser currency drives out the good currency.

Personality Development

(Contd. from page 786)

into focus. Goethe warned, "We must always be changing; always rejuvenating ourselves—else we grow mouldy". More than 2,300 years ago Plato wrote: "The unexamined life is not worth living". These words still ring true today. You must have conscious direction of your life to be not only successful but really alive.

Model Paragraphs

(Contd. from page 788)

body and not the persuasion of the spirit. The first world war was fought, it was proclaimed from the house-tops, to make the world safe for democracy. But democracy kept on the throne with the help of bayonets is no democracy, whose essence is persuasion and sweet reasonableness. In the name of freedom how much blood was shed at the time of the French Revolution. Not only Louis XVI and his Queen but hundreds of lords and barons were sent to the gallows, so that Paris should be free. Very soon, however, this freedom was strangled by Napoleon. He had used the catchy slogan of freedom but when the slogan had done the job, he was the first to drive a rapier through freedom's body. Gandhiji realized the folly of employing violence. He knew that violence would breed greater violence. Freedom's battle, he asserted, would be bedevilled if we resorted to violence.

Intelligence TEST

1. What is the missing date in a leap year?

JAN.	JAN.	JAN.
2	9	23

FEB.

13

APL.

16

2. Unscramble the words below according to the clues given against each.

(a) SQOMEU (Place of worship.)

(b) ALICERG (Icy river.)

(c) CLEBICY (Two-wheeled.)

(d) KITNUSP (Space-craft.)

(e) MEGRITNE (Army term.)

3. Which is the odd man out?

(a) Grate, grind, hot, churn, wash

(b) Red, smooth, rough, twist, golden

(c) Add, divide, cook, multiply, subtract

(d) Toe, lips, ankles, heel, foot

(e) Nice, beautiful, lovely, exquisite, dull

4. Give any five words which begin with A and end with N.

5. The word 'quixotic' means:

(a) An intoxicating drink.

(b) A locomotive spare part.

(c) Extremely impractical.

6. Complete the third word:

FULL

GULL

....

7. Write the serial number of the word or phrase you believe is *nearest in meaning* to the key word.

(a) Oscillate—A: to kiss; B: swing back and forth; C: electrify; D: insistent.

(b) Crucial—A: exceptional; B: tragic; C: critical and decisive; D: insistent.

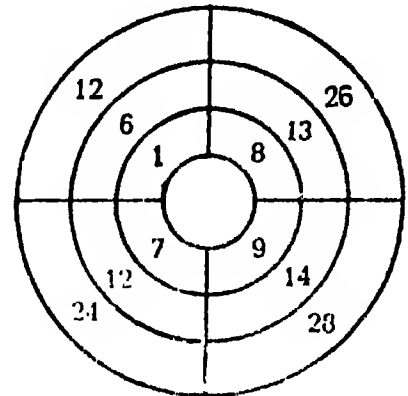
(c) Stogy—A: sturdy; B: dull; C: blunt; D: obstinate.

(d) Catapult: A: to hurl; B: climb; C: crawl; D: fall.

8. What number goes into the empty box?

49	343	16807
1	2	3
		7

9. What number should hit the bull's eye?



10. Fill in the blank number:

5	4	2	8	6
4	3	.	1	2
9	7	8	9	8

11. A cyclist covers a distance of 20 km. in 1 hour and 15 minutes. What is his speed per hour? (Clues: (a) 15 km, (b) 16 km, (c) 20 km, (d) 25 km.)

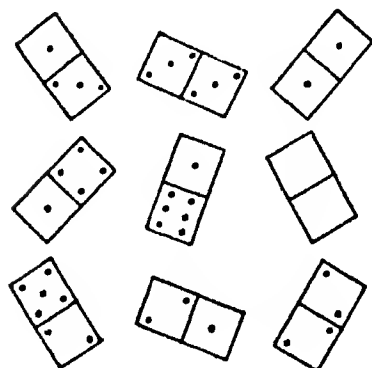
12. Find the missing number:

26 29 39 — 52 55

13. Match the Indian states given in Column A with the cities given under Column B.

Column A	Column B
(a) Andhra Pradesh	(i) Cuttack
(b) Karnataka	(ii) Jabalpur
(c) Orissa	(iii) Kurnool
(d) Gujarat	(iv) Bijapur
(e) Madhya Pradesh	(v) Surat

14. How many dots should go on the figure on the right of the middle line?



15. What relation is your brother's son's mother to your father?

16. Match the proverbs given in Column A with their meanings given in Column B.

Column A

- (a) Knowledge is power.
(b) Deep rivers move in silence.
(c) Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.
(d) Make hay while the sun shines.

Column B

- (i) Never miss the good opportunities which are rare.
(ii) It is not wise to worry about imaginary fears.
(iii) Great men are humble.
(iv) The more you know about men and matters, the more assured is your success in life.

17. Give one word for the following sentences.

- (a) A story which is difficult to be believed.
(b) A speech made without previous preparation.
(c) A medicine which cures all diseases.
(d) An impression which can't be easily removed.

18. Choose the most appropriate answer to the following question from the given choices:—

PEOPLE PREFER TRAVELLING BY AEROPLANE TO TRAIN, BECAUSE:

- (a) Aeroplane moves faster.
(b) It takes less time than the train.
(c) It is more comfortable.
(d) It reaches earlier than train.
(e) It is safer than train.
(f) It saves their precious time.

19. What drink is hidden below?

MOLEEDAN

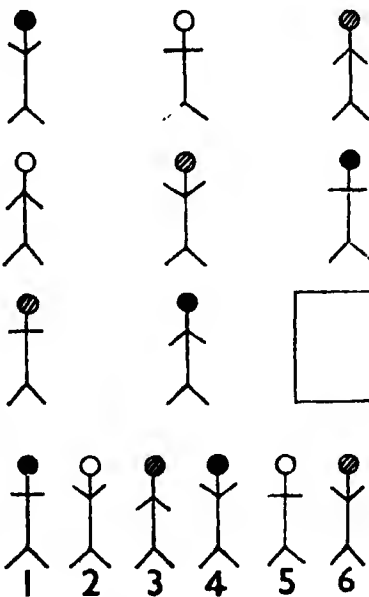
20. Complete the sequence:

A C F — O U

21. Underline the odd man out:

Enterprise: tripe, pcer, rite, rent, print, pair, rips.

22. Which of the six numbered figures fits into the vacant square? (Insert the number in the square.)



23. The Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports is located in:

- (a) Jalahalli (Bangalore), (b) Nahan (Himachal Pradesh), (c) Patiala (Punjab), (d) Dehra Dun (U.P.)

24. Indian Standard Time is hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.

(a) 5½ (b) 6½ (c) 7 (d) 7½

25. If Group Captain's rank is equivalent to Colonel, write IAF, otherwise write Army.

Answers and Explanations

- March 12 (There is an increase of one week in the intervals between each successive date.)
- (a) MOSQUE (b) GLACIER (c) BICYCLE (d) SPUTNIK (e) REGIMENT
- (a) Hot—the rest are verbs. (b) Twist—the rest are adjectives. (c) Cook—the rest are connected with mathematics. (d) Lips—the rest are part of the leg. (e) Dull—the rest are positive adjectives.
- Ammunition, auction, action, affection, attention.
- (c). Extremely impractical.
- HULL. (The last three letters being the same, the first letter of each word must run in consecutive order.)
- (a) B; (b) C; (c) B; (d) A.
2401. (Starting from left to right, we have 7 multiplied by itself equals 49, $49 \times 7 = 343$, $343 \times 7 = 2401$ and so on to 16807. Numbers below have no significance.)
5. (Working inwards from the outside rings, halve the number in the outside ring, deduct from the result the number in the third ring, and this gives you the number in the bull's-eye.)
6. (Each column of figures is a simple addition sum.)
- (b).
42. (There are two alternating series; one increasing by 3 the other by 10.)
- (a) (iii); (b) (iv); (c) (i); (d) (v); (e) (ii).

(Contd. on page 806)

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examinations for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice out of the choices given below each question. More than one choice can be correct.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. Dada Saheb Phalke award for 1978 for "outstanding contribution to the cause of Indian cinema" has been awarded to Shri R.C. Boral who is a well-known:

- (a) producer
- (b) director
- (c) music director
- (d) actor

2. Sharda, who has won the "Best Actress" award for 1978 for her role in the Telugu film *Nimajjanam* has won this award for the:

- (a) first time
- (b) second time
- (c) third time
- (d) fourth time

3. According to the Constitution (44th Amendment) Act, 1979, a proclamation of Emergency can be issued due to:

- (a) internal disturbances
- (b) internal disturbances amounting to an armed rebellion
- (c) threat of external aggression or war
- (d) failure of Constitutional machinery in more than half the number of States.

4. As declared by Prime Minister Morarji Desai, India:

- (a) is not going to manufacture atomic weapons for the present
- (b) will never manufacture atomic weapons
- (c) has no desire to manufacture atomic weapons
- (d) will manufacture atomic weapons if Pakistan does so

5. An "International Islamic Conference" to discuss "liberation of Muslim lands" from non-Islamic "domination" was held in May last in:

- (a) Addis Ababa
- (b) Tcheran
- (c) Jeddah
- (d) London

6. Which of the following countries have sought admission to the non-aligned movement:

- (a) Iran
- (b) Egypt
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Surinam
- (e) Grenada
- (f) Dominica

7. The Fifth UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) held in Manila which ended on June 3:

- (a) resulted in removing the grievances of the

poor (developing) countries against the industrialised nations

- (b) failed in reconciling the interests of 159 nations in greatly varying stages of economic development, of widely divergent doctrines and beliefs

- (c) achieved its main objective of "structural change" aimed at a new international economic order

8. According to a U.N. survey, the cheapest place to visit at present is:

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) India
- (c) Ireland
- (d) Kuwait

9. The 10th country to join the EEC (European Economic Community (or Common Market) is:

- (a) Greece
- (b) Belgium
- (c) Italy
- (d) Netherlands

10. Which of the following countries is not a member of the EEC:

- (a) Germany
- (b) France
- (c) Denmark
- (d) U.K.
- (e) Sweden

11. The committee which has made recommendations seeking to bring about uniformity in the wages and service conditions of commercial bank employees is known as:

- (a) Das Committee
- (b) Jha Committee
- (c) Pillai Committee
- (d) Sarkaria Committee

12. The capital of Central African Republic is:

- (a) Mogadiscio
- (b) Bangui
- (c) Salisbury
- (d) Cape Town

13. Mr Joe Clark, who has succeeded Mr Pierre Trudeau as Prime Minister of Canada as a result of general elections held in May last and who, at 39, is the youngest Prime Minister of his country, belongs to:

- (a) Liberal Party
- (b) Democratic Party
- (c) Conservative Party

14. The 1982 Asian Games are to be held in:

- (a) Manila
- (b) Bangkok
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Tokyo

15. The main purpose of India's second satellite—"Bhaskar"—launched into space from a Soviet cosmodrome on June 7, is:

- (a) weather observation
- (b) earth observation
- (c) star observation

16. India has recently accorded recognition to the new regime in Uganda headed by:

- (a) Idi Amin
- (b) Bishop Abel Muzorewa
- (c) Yusufu Lule
- (d) John Vorster

HISTORY

17. Heiun-tsang, the Chinese pilgrim, visited India during the reign of:

- (a) Chandragupta Vikramaditya
- (b) Chandragupta Maurya
- (c) Ashoka, the Great

18. Magna Carta was signed in:

- (a) 1215
- (b) 1152
- (c) 1512

19. The Russian Revolution took place in:

- (a) 1915
- (b) 1917
- (c) 1919

20. Harshavardhana lived during:

- (a) 7th Century A.D.
- (b) 9th Century A.D.
- (c) 2nd Century A.D.

21. In the battle of Haldighati in 1576:

- (a) Rana Pratap defeated Akbar's forces
- (b) Akbar's forces defeated Rana Pratap
- (c) Rana Pratap defeated Man Singh

22. In 1937, during the British reign in India, Congress Ministries were installed in:

- (a) nine provinces
- (b) seven provinces
- (c) Bihar and Bengal only

23. The fourth and the last Marhatta war was fought in 1818 between:

- (a) The British forces under East India Company and the Marhattas
- (b) the Mughals and the Marhattas
- (c) the French forces and the Marhattas

24. Slavery was abolished in the U.S.A. in 1863 by:

- (a) George Washington
- (b) Thomas Jefferson
- (c) Abraham Lincoln

25. The first Census in India during the British period was held during the Viceroyalty of:

- (a) Lord Rippon
- (b) Lord Lytton
- (c) Lord Dufferin

26. The Congress resolution for complete independence was passed during the period of:

- (a) Lord Chelmsford

- (b) Lord Wellington
- (c) Lord Irwin

27. The I.N.A. trial was held during the period of:

- (a) Lord Wavell
- (b) Lord Mountbatten
- (c) Lord Linlithgow

28. Ahalyabai, the saintly queen of Maheshwar (Central India) belonged to:

- (a) Rajput dynasty
- (b) Peshwa dynasty
- (c) Holkar dynasty

29. Alauddin belonged to:

- (a) Khilji dynasty
- (b) Lodhi dynasty
- (c) Mughal dynasty

30. Qutab-ud-Din Aibak was an important ruler of:

- (a) Slave dynasty
- (b) Tughlaq dynasty
- (c) Khilji dynasty
- (d) Lodhi dynasty

GEOGRAPHY

31. Vertical distance above Mean Sea Level is known as:

- (a) altitude
- (b) longitude
- (c) latitude

32. Dead Sea is:

- (a) 4393 metres below sea level
- (b) 5003 metres below sea level
- (c) 4293 metres below sea level

33. The area of Asia is more than:

- (a) 50 million sq. km.
- (b) 44 million sq. km.
- (c) 60 million sq. km.

34. A lofty table-land which lies north of India is called:

- (a) Tibet Plateau
- (b) Pamir Knot
- (c) Tarim Basin

35. One of the most barren lands in Asia is:

- (a) Thar desert
- (b) Baluchistan
- (c) Maluccas

36. Peninsula is a stretch of land almost surrounded by:

- (a) small hills
(b) water
(c) forests
37. A strait is a narrow stretch of sea connecting:
(a) two extensive areas of sea
(b) two continents
(c) two countries
38. Contours are lines drawn on a map through places of:
(a) equal height
(b) equal temperature
(c) equal pressure
39. Isobars are lines on a map joining places which have:
(a) equal amount of sunshine
(b) the same barometric pressure
(c) equal rainfall
40. Which country is associated with Magyars:
(a) Hungary
(b) Belgium
(c) Denmark
41. Which place is known as Isle of Pearls:
(a) The Pamirs
(b) Egypt
(c) Bahrain
(d) Venice
42. A lunar eclipse occurs when:
(a) moon comes between the earth and the sun
(b) the earth comes in between the moon and the sun
43. The first person in the world to reach the South Pole was:
(a) Amundsen
(b) Robert Peary
(c) Magellan
44. "Zulus" is a tribe associated with:
(a) New Zealand
(b) South Africa
(c) Argentine
45. The tallest animal in the world is:
(a) Giraffe
- (b) Kangaroo
(c) Illama
46. A huge mass of snow moving slowly down the valley and slopes of mountains till it melts after passing the snow line is called:
(a) Avalanche
(b) Iceberg
(c) Glacier
(d) Typhoon
47. Marble is a:
(a) sedimentary rock
(b) metamorphic rock
(c) igneous rock
48. "Oder Neisse Line" defines the boundary drawn after the second world war between:
(a) East Germany and West Germany
(b) East Germany and Poland
(c) Germany and France
- MISCELLANY**
49. Namibia is the new name of:
(a) South-West Africa
(b) East Africa
(c) Portuguese Guinea
50. Siam is the old name of:
(a) Thailand
(b) Malaysia
(c) Indonesia
51. The national Emblem of Australia is:
(a) Eagle
(b) Kangaroo
(c) Bull
52. The Parliament of the USSR is known as:
(a) Kremlin
(b) Supreme Soviet
(c) Knesset
53. The Parliament of Israel is known as:
(a) Knesset
(b) Diet
(c) Storting
54. Chrysanthemum is the national flower of:
(a) Korea
(b) China
(c) Japan
55. The currency of Yugoslavia is called:
(a) Dinar
(b) Peso
(c) Lira
56. Who spoke of the American Presidency as "a splendid misery":
(a) Richard Nixon
(b) F.D. Roosevelt
(c) Thomas Jefferson
(d) George Washington
57. Who said: "Just as I would not like to be a slave, so I would not like to be a master":
(a) Mahatma Gandhi
(b) Jawahar Lal Nehru
(c) Abraham Lincoln
- ANSWERS**
(Current Affairs)
- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (c) |
| 3. (b), (c) | 4. (c) |
| 5. (d) | 6. (a), (c), (d), (e) |
| 7. (b) | 8. (c) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (e) |
| 11. (c) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (c) | 14. (c) |
| 15. (b) | 16. (c) |
- (History)
- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 17. (a) | 18. (a) |
| 19. (b) | 20. (a) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (b) |
| 23. (a) | 24. (c) |
| 25. (a) | 26. (c) |
| 27. (a) | 28. (c) |
| 29. (a) | 30. (a) |
- (Geography)
- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 31. (a) | 32. (a) |
| 33. (b) | 34. (b) |
| 35. (b) | 36. (b) |
| 37. (a) | 38. (a) |
| 39. (b) | 40. (a) |
| 41. (c) | 42. (b) |
| 43. (a) | 44. (b) |
| 45. (a) | 46. (c) |
| 47. (b) | 48. (b) |
- (Miscellany)
- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 49. (a) | 50. (a) |
| 51. (b) | 52. (b) |
| 53. (a) | 54. (c) |
| 55. (a) | 56. (c) |
| 57. (c) | |

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Select the appropriate alternative in the following cases. Give only the number.

(a) One cannot be too careful of—good name.

1. his
2. one's
3. the

(b) The reason why he failed in his business was—he did not put his whole heart into it.

1. because
2. since
3. that

(c) The two brothers quarrelled with—over their ancestral property.

1. themselves
2. one another
3. each other

(d) You will see who runs faster, you or—.

1. I
2. me
3. myself

(e) The strain of all the vexations and anxieties—more than he could bear.

1. were
2. are
3. was

(f) Iron as well as gold—found in plenty in our country.

1. is
2. are
3. are being

(g) The little boy has been—by a scorpion.

1. bitten
2. cut
3. stung

(h) By pleading insufficiency of funds the Director—cold water upon our schemes.

1. poured
2. threw
3. put

(i) I can assure you that I have no—motive in offering you my help.

1. inner
2. hidden
3. ulterior

(j) They never fail who die in—great cause.

1. some
2. the
3. a

Q. II. With the help of the words given in the list complete the following sentences. Use each word only once.

creep, loiter, lurk, pace, plod, ramble, stagger, stray, stride, strut.

1. As the operation went on, the father of the patient—nervously up and down the corridor.

2. We reached the bus-stand dead-tired and—wearily to our lodgings.

3. The Principal—into the hall and a hush fell on the students.

4. I asked the errand-boy to deliver the message immediately and not to—on the way.

5. It was a holiday and we decided to—around the countryside.

6. After stealing the cake the little boy—downstairs all the time afraid of being caught.

7. Drunk as he was he—out of the hall and stumbled against a flower-pot.

8. The buffalo broke loose from its tether and—into the paddy-field.

9. Little did he know that his enemies were—in the bushes.

10. The crow beautified with peacock-feathers—up and down the farmyard.

Q. III. Out of the different alternatives given at the end of each sentence indicate the one which is closest in meaning to the italicised expression.

(a) Influenced by the Darwinian Theory more and more persons came to *disbelieve in the existence of God*.

1. impious
2. godless
3. atheist
4. agnostic

(b) There are some tribes in the interior of Africa *which eat human flesh*.

1. man-eater
2. brute
3. carnivorous
4. cannibal

(c) The monarchs Akbar and Elizabeth *reigned at the same time*.

1. simultaneous
2. contemporary

3. timely
4. equidistant

(d) Morning walkers saw the dead body of an animal lying near the level-crossing.

1. corps
2. corpse
3. skeleton
4. carcass

(e) I believe that God exists, though *He cannot be seen*.

1. unseen
2. invisible
3. remote
4. telescopic

(f) I have tried my utmost but find him *hard to please*.

1. incorruptible
2. fastidious
3. fussy
4. unpleasing

(g) The Nazis under Hitler were wedded to the *deliberate destruction of a racial group* like the Jews.

1. genocide
2. parricide
3. homicide
4. regicide

(h) You must not carry with you any article which *catches fire easily*.

1. combustible
2. inflammable
3. sulphurous
4. incendiary

(i) Once I take a decision, *I do not go back on it*.

1. infallible
2. irreversible
3. irrevocable
4. unchangeable

(j) During my school-days I was very much given to my *studies*.

1. scholar
2. bookish
3. book-worm
4. studious

Q. IV. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

Of all the sombre ironies of history none throws a more sinister light on human nature than

the fact that the new-style nationalist Jews, on the morrow of the most appalling of the many persecutions that their race had endured, should at once proceed to demonstrate, at the expense of Palestinian Arabs whose only offence against the Jews was that Palestine was their ancestral home, that the lesson learnt by Zionists from the sufferings which Nazis had inflicted on Jews was, not to forbear from committing the crime of which they themselves had been the victims, but to persecute, in their turn, a people weaker than they were. The Israeli Jews did not follow in the Nazis' footsteps to the extent of exterminating the Palestinian Arabs in concentration camps and gas chambers, but they did dispossess the majority of them, to the number of more than half a million, of the lands which they and their fathers had occupied and cultivated for generations, and of the property that they were unable to carry with them in their flight, and thereby they reduced them to destitution as "displaced persons".

Point out the correct alternative.

(A) The word irony means

1. cruelty
2. mockery
3. absurdity

(B) The irony in the passage is

1. The Nazis persecuted the Jews
2. The Jews persecuted the Palestinians
3. The Jews, persecuted by the Nazis, in their turn, persecuted the Palestinians.

(C) The moral of the passage is

1. Man is cruel by instinct
2. Revengefulness is natural
3. We do not grow wiser by our experience

(D) The 'offence' referred to in the passage is

1. Palestinian Arabs were friends of the Nazis

2. Palestinian Arabs wanted to destroy Israel

3. These Arabs loved Palestine, their home-land.

(E) The difference between the Nazis and the Jews was

1. Nazis were followers of Christ while the Jews followed Moses
2. Nazis belonged to Europe while the Jews belonged to Asia
3. Nazis tried to exterminate their victims while the Jews deprived them of their land and property

Q. V. Each of the following sentences has been divided into three parts. Indicate by its number the part where a mistake occurs. (There is only one mistake in each sentence.)

(a) I am here to plead (1) the cause of many unfortunate people (2) who cannot plead for them (3).

(b) You will be glad to learn (1) that we are breaking new grounds in the spring (2) by opening an Hotel at Mussoorie (3).

(c) My friend had very little to talk about (1) and it was pretty difficult for me (2) to keep the ball moving (3).

(d) He was to all appearance a gentleman (1) but we were shocked to learn (2) that he had cheated us out of a hundred rupees (3).

(e) When the girl wanted to stay out (1) until past midnight (2) the father put his feet down (3).

Q. VI. Complete the following proverbs.

1. An angry man opens ——— and shuts ———.
2. As are ———, so are the ———.
3. Sow ——— and reap ———.
4. Better short of ——— than short of ———.
5. Beggars ——— and rich men ———.

(Contd. on page 800)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

1. What is measured in watts?
 - (a) electrical power
 - (b) electrical energy
 - (c) charge energy
 - (d) mechanical energy
2. What is the unit of measurement of domestic consumption of electrical energy ?
 - (a) kilowatt
 - (b) kilowatt-hour
 - (c) joule
 - (d) calorie
3. The coils of a resistance box are made up of:
 - (a) copper
 - (b) constantan
 - (c) brass
 - (d) iron
4. Among the following, the most suitable for use in ordinary thermometers is:
 - (a) hydrogen
 - (b) helium
 - (c) water
 - (d) alcohol
5. Among the following ordered sequence of electromagnetic radiations, the one group which is misplaced is:
 - (a) radio waves
 - (b) infra-red rays
 - (c) X-rays
 - (d) visible light
 - (e) ultra violet light
6. Mass of a cubic metre of air at N.T.P. is roughly:
 - (a) 1.30 gm
 - (b) 13 gm
 - (c) 130 gm
 - (d) 1300 gm
7. Which of the following substances is used as a lubricant in heavy machinery?
 - (a) graphite
 - (b) mica
 - (c) corundum
 - (d) carborundum
8. Which of the following gases occurs in the atmosphere in the greatest amount?
 - (a) oxygen
 - (b) nitrogen
 - (c) argon
 - (d) carbon dioxide
9. The most important and usually most abundant of the variable gases in the lower atmosphere is:
 - (a) ozone
 - (b) oxygen
 - (c) water vapour
 - (d) argon
10. An element that is usually found in explosives is:
 - (a) sulphur
 - (b) nitrogen
 - (c) aluminium
 - (d) carbon
11. Heroin is:
 - (a) a habit-forming narcotic
 - (b) a compound obtained from the coca plant
 - (c) a substance used in making cigarettes
 - (d) an antiseptic compound
12. A functional disease is one that:
 - (a) is due to the presence of small parasites in the body
 - (b) is due to inefficient working of some body part
 - (c) does not account for a large proportion of deaths
 - (d) is caused by viruses rather than bacteria
13. A cancer is best described as a :
 - (a) lump-like growth
 - (b) tumor that forms a wall around itself
 - (c) tumor that keeps on growing
 - (d) growth due to an infection
14. Which of the following B-complex vitamins contains a metal?
 - (a) B₁
 - (b) B₂
 - (c) B₆
 - (d) B₁₂
15. Which of the following organisms have the greatest mutual resemblance?
 - (a) class
 - (b) group
 - (c) species
 - (d) phylum
16. The biological reason for the claim that excessive overweight may shorten the life span is that:
 - (a) the overweight body requires more food than the digestive system can handle
 - (b) the overweight body accumulates more poisonous waste of products
 - (c) the leg muscles of an overweight body need too much energy
 - (d) supplying enough blood to an overweight body causes the heart to overwork
17. Blood flows from the heart first to:
 - (a) capillaries and then to veins
 - (b) veins and then to arteries
 - (c) arteries, then to capillaries, and then to veins
 - (d) arterioles and then to venules

18. In transfusions, the blood must be compatible not only in blood type but also in:

- (a) number of red cells
- (b) Rh factor
- (c) number of white cells
- (d) race of donor and recipient

19. The backward flow of blood in veins is prevented by:

- (a) muscles
- (b) valves
- (c) the heartbeat
- (d) lymphatics

20. The tubes that connect the kidneys with the urinary bladder are known as:

- (a) tubules
- (b) urethra
- (c) ureters
- (d) dermis

21. The smallest unit of geological time is called:

- (a) an epoch
- (b) a period
- (c) an era
- (d) a province

22. The height of a column of mercury which will be balanced by average air pressure at sea level is:

- (a) 76 mm
- (b) 30 cm
- (c) 760 mm
- (d) 760 cm

23. Which of the following is closest to the number of pounds of air which press down upon an average person at sea level?

- (a) 10
- (b) 10,000
- (c) 20,000
- (d) 100,000

24. Aneroid barometers can be made to read any of the following except:

- (a) millimeters of mercury
- (b) inches of mercury
- (c) feet of altitude
- (d) water vapour pressure

25. Compared with a land area, a water area:

- (a) heats more rapidly and cools more rapidly

(b) heats more rapidly and cools more slowly

(c) heats more slowly and cools more rapidly

(d) heats more slowly and cools more slowly

Increases (I), Decreases (D),
Remains the same (RS)

26. As the pressure on a liquid increases, its boiling point:

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

27. As the mass of a radioactive substance is decreased, its half-life:

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

28. As an elastic balloon full of helium gas rises from the surface of the earth through the atmosphere, the volume of the balloon:

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

29. On a clear night, as the wind velocity increases, the possibility of fog:

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

30. As night cloudiness increases, the amount of heat loss by radiation from the earth:

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

Explain

31. Why is it that you feel more comfortable in dry air at 95°F than in moist air at the same temperature?

32. What is responsible for the discomfort felt by people who move from areas near sea level to high altitudes? How can this discomfort be reduced?

33. What is the difference between migration and emigration?

34. Explain how carbon monoxide gas causes uncon-

sciousness or death.

35. Why is high blood pressure a serious condition? Why is hardening of the arteries a serious condition?

36. Matching Test

Directions: For each prevention or treatment in questions (a) through (e), write the number preceding the disease, chosen from the list below, for which that prevention or treatment is used.

- 1. Syphilis
- 2. Trichinosis
- 3. Cancer
- 4. Typhoid fever
- 5. Tetanus
- 6. Hookworm
- 7. Malaria

(a) Inoculation with anti-toxin

(b) Surgery. X-rays, radium

(c) Water purification

(d) Swamp drainage

(e) Blood test before marriage

Fill in the blanks

37. (a) The process requiring two parents to produce offspring is called—.

(b) The process in which two similar cells unite in reproduction is called—.

(c) The part of a flower that often develops into a fruit is called the—.

(d) The union of two dissimilar gametes is called—.

(e) The essential organs of a flower are the stamens and the

Test your knowledge

38. A different way of looking at the atmosphere depends on how the earth's magnetic field is affected by the sun. A stream of particles from the sun called the 1 confines the earth's magnetic field to a region known as the 2. Within this region lie three naturally occurring, doughnut-shaped regions of charged particles called the 3, 4, and the 5.

The atmosphere is made up of different gases. About twenty per cent of the volume of the atmosphere is 4 and about seventy-eight per cent is 5. We say air is matter because it occupies space and has weight. One cubic metre of air weighs about 6 kilogram. The pressure of the air at sea level is about 7 per square metre. This pressure of air will hold a column of water 8 metres high. A 9 is used to measure atmospheric pressure. One form is a tube filled with 10 that stands at a height of 11 centimetres at sea level. It was invented by 12.

Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

39. (a) psi (b) STP (c) I.Q. (d) Aurora Borealis (e) albedo (f) alluvial plain

ANSWERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (b) |
| 3. (b) | 4. (d) |
| 5. (c) | 6. (d) |
| 7. (a) | 8. (b) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (c) | 14. (d) |
| 15. (c) | 16. (d) |
| 17. (c) | 18. (b) |
| 19. (b) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (c) |
| 23. (c) | 24. (d) |
| 25. (d) | 26. (a) |
| 27. (c) | 28. (a) |
| 29. (b) | 30. (b) |

31. You feel more comfortable in dry air at 95°F than in moist air at the same temperature, because your perspiration evaporates more quickly in dry air, and as it evaporates, it takes body heat with it.

32. Discomfort may be felt by people who move from sea level to high altitudes because, in the reduced air pressure, less oxygen enters the blood through the lungs. Then the body cells have a lowered oxygen supply. The discomfort may be reduced by remaining as inactive as possible. In time, the body adjusts

to conditions of lowered air pressure.

33. Migration involves seasonal travels between summer and winter homes, while emigration means to move from one place to another with no return journey.

34. Carbon monoxide is absorbed by the haemoglobin in the red blood cells, and retained by them for sometime. As a result, the red corpuscles are prevented from carrying oxygen. Cells of body tissues are soon "starved" for oxygen and unconsciousness and death follow if the condition persists.

35. High blood pressure is serious because it is associated with hardening of the arteries. Hardened arteries may rupture, and since they resist normal blood flow, an extra work load is placed upon the heart. In time an over burdened heart may fail.

36. (a) 5
(b) 3
(c) 4
(d) 7
(e) 1
37. (a) sexual reproduction
(b) conjugation
(c) ovary
(d) fertilisation
(e) pistils
38. 1. solar wind
2. magnetosphere
3. stable trapping region, outer Van Allen belt, inner Van Allen belt
4. oxygen
5. nitrogen
6. 1.3
7. 5 newtons
8. 10
9. barometer
10. mercury
11. 76
12. Torricelli

39. (a) pounds per square inch
(b) Standard Temperature and Pressure

(c) Intelligence Quotient
(d) A glow of light seen in the northern sky

(e) Average reflectivity of a body in space such as the moon or earth

(f) A plain formed by the deposition of materials from rivers and streams

Objective-Type Tests English Language

(Contd. from page 777)

ANSWERS

(Question I)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) 2 | (b) 3 |
| (c) 3 | (d) 1 |
| (e) 3 | (f) 2 |
| (g) 3 | (h) 2 |
| (i) 3 | (j) 3 |

(Question II)

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. paced | 2. plodded |
| 3. strode | 4. loiter |
| 5. ramble | 6. crept |
| 7. staggered | 8. strayed |
| 9. lurking | 10. strutted |

(Question III)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) 3 | (b) 4 |
| (c) 2 | (d) 4 |
| (e) 2 | (f) 2 |
| (g) 1 | (h) 2 |
| (i) 3 | (j) 3 |

(Question IV)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (A) 2 | (B) 3 |
| (C) 3 | (D) 3 |
| (E) 3 | |

(Question V)

- | | |
|-------|-------------|
| (a) 3 | themselves |
| (b) 2 | ground |
| (c) 3 | rolling |
| (d) 1 | appearances |
| (e) 3 | foot |

(Question VI)

1. An angry man opens his mouth and shuts his eyes.
2. As are the gods, so are the worshippers.
3. Sow the wind and reap the whirlwind.
4. Better short of pence than short of sense.
5. Beggars bleed and rich men feed.



SPORTS

ARCHERY

Asian Championships: The first Asian Archery Championships will be held at Calcutta in December next, according to an announcement made at Chandigarh by Mr Tarlochan Singh, President of the Punjab Archery Association and Vice-President of the Archery Federation of India. The Indian team for the championships, he said, would be trained with imported bows and arrows.

National Championships: Bengal retained the top team honours in the fifth National Archery Championships which concluded at Hyderabad on June 6.

Bengal (3030 points) and Delhi (1859) were placed first and second respectively in the men's section. Bengal's women, with 2412 points, proved too strong for Delhi who were runners-up with 814 points.

ASIAN GAMES

Delhi Getting Set: The XI Asian Games will be held at New Delhi from October 31 to November 14, according to a statement made on May 21 by Mr Vijay Kumar Malhotra, President of the Organising Committee, Delhi, he said, was getting set for the big event. The work on the sports complex was in progress and all possible modern amenities were being arranged. Delhi played host to the First Asian Games in 1951.

Competitions will be held in 19 disciplines—archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, cycling, equestrian, football, golf, gymnastics, hockey, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling and yachting. Besides these, there will be three demonstration games—kabaddi, kho kho and cycle polo.

ATHLETICS

Asian Track and Field Meet: The four-day Asian Track and Field Meet ended in a blaze of glory for Japan at Tokyo on June 3. In 38 events competed for by 268 competitors from 19 nations, the home country reaped a rich harvest of 20 gold, 18 silver and 21 bronze medals.

China (7 — 8 — 3) and Iraq (3 — 1 — 2) were placed second and

third respectively. India finished fourth with 2 gold, 3 silver and 8 bronze medals.

The final medals tally was:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Japan	20	18	21
China	7	8	3
Iraq	3	1	2
India	2	3	8
South Korea	2	2	1
North Korea	2	2	1
Thailand	1	2	0
Kuwait	1	0	0
Malaysia	0	2	1
Philippines	0	0	1

Fastest Athletes: Suchart Jaesurapark (Thailand) proved to be the fastest man of the meet, winning the 100 metres in 10.63 seconds. This distinction among the women was claimed by Emiko Konishi of Japan who burst through the tape in 100 metres in 12 seconds.

Best All-Rounders: Displaying remarkable skill, speed and stamina, Atsushi Kasai of Japan proved to be the best all-round athlete among men, winning the gruelling 10-event decathlon with 7,096 points. Although the tally was better than that of Japan's Hisashi Iwai, who had collected 7,003 points in the 1978 Bangkok Games, it was below the performance of V.S. Chauhan of India who had won the event in the 1974 Teheran Games with a total of 7,375 points.

Yeh Pei-su of China gave a superb display of all-round prowess by winning the five-event pentathlon among women with 4,139 points. She thus improved her own record by six points, set by her last year in the Bangkok Asian Games.

India's medal winners:

Gold: Hakam Singh (20-km. walk) and Rattan Singh (1500 metres).

Silver: Suresh Babu (long jump), Satbir Singh (110 metres hurdles) and Rita Sen (400 metres).

Bronze: Gopal Saini (300 metres steeplechase and 5000 metres), Raghbir Singh (Hammer throw), Bahadur Singh (shot put), Sant Kumar (800 metres), V. Kamaraj, Piara Singh, Harkramjit Singh and Uday Prabhu (4 × 400 metres relay), V. Chandola, Rita Sen, Angel Mary Joseph and S. Chatterji (4 × 100 metres relay) and A. Sumariwala, R. Gnanasekharan,

O.L. Thomas and T. Harman (4 × 100 metres relay).

World Cup: As a result of the performances put up by competitors in the Tokyo Meet, 44 athletes from nine nations were named to represent Asian in the second track and field World Cup at Montreal from August 24 to 26. The Asian athletes will compete against seven teams, including the U.S.A., two from the European Championships and four others continental representatives of Oceania, Africa, Europe and America.

The selected Indian athletes are: Rattan Singh (1500 m), Gopal Saini (5000 m), Edward Vincent (10,000 m), R. Gnanasekharan (400 m relay), Uday Prabhu (1600 m relay), Hakam Singh (20-km walk), Suresh Babu (long jump) and Rita Sen (400 m and 1600 m relay races).

BADMINTON

Thomas Cup: Indonesia, the defending champions, retained the Thomas Cup, symbol of world supremacy in badminton, when they dealt a 9-0 drubbing to Denmark in the final at Jakarta on June 2. In the semi-finals, Indonesia had defeated Japan 9-0 and Denmark had beaten India 7-2.

The International Badminton Championship for the Thomas Cup was instituted in 1948. The donor of the Cup, Sir George Thomas, died last year at the age of 91.

RESULTS:

Singles: He Sumirat beat Svend Pri, 11-15, 15-7, 15-10; Liem Swie King beat Morten Frost Hansen, 15-3, 15-6; Rudy Hartono beat Fleming Delfs, 15-10, 15-2; Liem Swie King beat Svend Pri, 15-8, 15-1; He Sumirat beat Morten Frost Hansen, 12-15, 15-9, 15-8.

Doubles: Tjun Tjun and Johan Wahyudi beat Fleming Delfs and Steen Skorgaard, 15-2, 15-3; Liem Swie King and Christian beat Morten Frost Hansen and Steen Fladberg, 15-8, 15-2; Liem Swie King and Christian beat Fleming Delfs and Steen Skorgaard, 17-16, 15-4; Tjun Tjun and He Sumirat beat Morten Frost Hansen and Steen Fladberg, 15-3, 15-5.

BASKETBALL

Women's World Championship: U.S.A. won the 8th Women's World Basketball Championship when they defeated Canada, 77-61, in the final at Seoul on May 13.

Pre-Asian Championship: Punjab and Services recorded four wins each in the 9th Pre-Asian Basketball Championship which concluded at Ludhiana on June 3. Punjab, however,

were declared the winners because they had beaten the Services during the six-team league matches. The final placings were: Punjab 1, Services 2, Rajasthan 3, Railways 4, Rest of India 5 and Bihar 6.

CRICKET

Sheesh Mahal Tournament: Gulabi XI of Calcutta won the 29th All-India Sheesh Mahal Cricket Tournament when they defeated K.N. Modi XI of Modinagar by virtue of their seven-run first innings lead in the final at Lucknow on June 2.

SCORES:

Gulabi XI: 308 and 287 for eight; *K.N. Modi XI:* 301 and 153 for seven.

FOOTBALL

Federation Cup for Women: Bengal, national champions, lifted the S.N. Safdar Trophy for the first Federation Cup Football Tournament for Women by beating Karnataka by an aggregate of 9-0 in the double-leg final at Coimbatore on June 9.

G.V. Raja Trophy: Tatas (Bombay) and Vasco (Goa) were declared joint winners of the G.V. Raja Trophy Football Tournament at Trivandrum on May 11, after the final had ended in a 2-2 draw.

Federation Cup: Border Security Force won the third Federation Cup Football Championship when they outplayed Mafatlal Sports Club of Bombay by three goals to nil in the replayed final at Gauhati on May 25. Their first meeting had ended in a 2-2 draw.

The All-India Football Federation, at its annual meeting at Darjeeling on June 13, 1976, decided to stage this competition annually to raise funds to finance its various programmes. Mr R. Gundu Rao, then Minister of State for Information and Youth Services, Karnataka, offered two cups, totally valued at Rs. 70,000, for the new competition, which was to include only top teams of the country.

Indian Telephone Industries became the winners of the first Federation Cup Football Championship at Cochin on May 7, 1977, with a surprise 1-0 win over fancied Mohun Bagan Club of Calcutta. In the final of the second competition at Coimbatore on May 9, 1978, Calcutta's famous clubs, Mohun Bagan and East Bengal, were declared joint winners. In the 180-minute encounter, including replayed final, neither team could score.

Sub Junior National Championship: Assam displayed excellent form

and won the third Sub Junior National Football Championship when they defeated holders Karnataka by 3-0 in the final at Gauhati on May 18.

HOCKEY

Aga Khan Tournament: Indian Airlines (Delhi) lifted the coveted Aga Khan Hockey Cup when they defeated Army Service Corps (Jullundur) by four goals to one in the final at Bombay on May 26.

The tournament is one of the oldest competitions of its kind in the country. It was first played at Bombay in 1896 and was preceded only by the Beighton Cup Hockey Tournament at Calcutta in 1895.

The tournament derives its name from the magnificent trophy presented by the late His Highness the Aga Khan. The trophy was won outright by the Cheshire Regiment in 1912 after their third successful win. It was promptly replaced by His Highness by the present handsome cup and the old tournament rule of winning it outright was changed.

Women's World Championship: Eighteen teams will participate in the Women's World Hockey Championship, to be held at Vancouver (Canada) from August 16 to 30.

India, placed on Pool C, have been clubbed with Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A. and Fiji. The teams in the other pools are:

Pool A: Holland, Ireland, Canada and Bermuda.

Pool B: Germany, Argentina, Scotland, Trinidad and Tobago.

Pool D: Wales, England, Japan, Hong Kong and Zambia.

Girls' (Under 18) National Championship: The final of the Girls' (under 18) National Hockey Championship, having ended in a 1-1 draw at Pune on May 13, Maharashtra and Punjab were declared joint winners.

Jaipal Singh Memorial Tournament: In an all-Jullundur final, Army Service Corps defeated E.M.E. by 1-0 and won the fifth All-India Jaipal Singh Memorial Hockey Tournament at Rourkela on May 13.

MOUNTAINEERING

Mount Everest (8,848 m): Two Yugoslav climbers added their name to the long list of conquerors of Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world, when they achieved this feat on May 12. The success of Mr Harne Zaplomik (27) and Mr Andrej Stremfel (23) becomes all the more creditable when it is known that they were the first to reach the top through the Virgin West Ridge route.

This is the 18th team to conquer Everest, the first being of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay in 1953.

SWIMMING

National Age Group Championships: Bengal and Maharashtra shared the honours in the third National Age Group Swimming Championships which concluded at Bombay on May 27.

Maharashtra won four title boys under 17, boys under 13, girls under 15 and girls under 13. Bengal finished on top in the remaining four sections—boys under 15, boys under 11, girls under 17 and girls under 11.

TENNIS

French Championships: Eighteen-year-old national champion Ramesh Krishnan, son of the famous player, Ramanathan Krishnan, gave India one of the biggest boosts in years when he won the juniors' crown in the French Open Championships at Paris on June 11. He defeated Ben Testerman of the U.S.A., 2-6, 6-1, 6-0.

Bjorn Borge of Sweden carried away the men's singles title beating Victor Pecci of Paraguay, 6-3, 6-1, 6-7, 6-4, and got the first prize of \$ 49,000. The loser collected \$ 24,500.

American world champion Chris Evert-Lloyd (24) outplayed Wendy Turnbull of Australia in the women's singles by 6-2, 6-0.

National Rankings: Mr Dilip K. Bose, Secretary, All-India Lawn Tennis Association, announced the following national rankings at New Delhi on May 27:

Men: Ramesh Krishnan 1, Shanker Krishnan 2, Nandan Bal 3, K. Raghuram 4.

Women: Ameetha Ahluwalia 1, Anu Peshawaria 2, Rina Einy 3, N. Appa Rao 4.

Boys (under 18): Surendar Kumar 1, E. Piperno 2, R. Dinesh 3, Raghuvir 4.

Boys (under 14): Amrit Bhargava 1, J. Rikhye 2, N. Rajiv 3, V. Venkatesh and J. Data 4.

Girls (under 18): Anu Peshawaria 1, Rina Einy 2, Radha Pandit 3, C. Fernandez 4.

Nations Cup: John Alexander led Australia to victory in the Nations Cup International Men's Team Tennis Championships at Dusseldorf (West Germany) on May 15. Australia beat Italy 2-1 in the final.

Current General Knowledge

Awards
Commissions
Conferences, Constitution
Persons
Places
Projects
Space Research

AWARDS

Rashtra Bhushan Award, 1979

Lata Mangeshkar, a famous singer, has been awarded the Rashtra Bhushan Award for 1979.

The award, instituted in 1977 by the Fuels Instruments Engineers (FIE) Foundation of Ichalkaranji (Kolhapur), is given for outstanding individual services to the nation. It carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh and a citation.

The citation says: "Lata Mangeshkar has given joy to lakhs of people by her songs and she has served the cause of music."

Mr Jayaprakash Narayan was the first recipient of the Rashtra Bhushan Award in 1977 and Mr Baba Amte, renowned anti-leprosy worker of Chandra-pur (Maharashtra), the second in 1978.

Sanskriti Awards, 1979

On May 21, Prime Minister Morarji Desai gave away the "Sanskriti Awards" for 1979 to young and upcoming talents in the fields of literature, journalism, performing arts, fine arts and social work.

The award winners are:

Creative writing: Dr Syed Asghar Wajahat.

Investigative journalism: Ashwini Sarin.

Fine arts: Kiran Sethi

Indian music: Rajan and Sajan Mishra.

Social work: Mobile Creches, the organisation which has

been caring for the children of construction workers in the Capital.

"Golden Dragon" Award

"Burning Stone", an Indian documentary of Films Division has been awarded the "Golden Dragon" at the 16th International Festival of Short Films held at Cracow.

Produced by Amar Verma and scripted and directed by Loksen Lalvani, the film deals with the life of coal miners, their living conditions, environmental pressures and their socio-economic conditions before and after nationalisation.

Pulitzer Prize, 1979

Fiction: John Cheever ("The Stories of John Cheever").

Drama: Sam Shepard ("Buried Child"—a play depicting the disintegration of a rural Illinois family).

Poetry: Robert Warren ("Now and Then : Poems 1976-78").

"Europe Prize", 1979

The 1979 "Europe Prize" was awarded at Strasbourg on May 22 to Prime Minister Raymond Barre of France and Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany in tribute to their efforts for European unification.

"Peace Prize" of the German Booksellers

Famed American violinist Yehudi Menuhin has been selected for the 25,000 Mark (13,160 dollars) peace prize of the German booksellers "for using music as a chance to bring about peace."

The 63-year-old New Yorker, who grew up in San Francisco, will be presented the prestigious prize on October 14 in Frankfurt's St Paul's Cathedral, historic site of the first German Parliament.

Menuhin is the first musician to receive the peace prize, central event during the annual Frankfurt book fair. Previous award winners were mainly authors and scientists.

Last year, Swedish author Astrid Lindgren was awarded the prize for her best-selling children's books.

COMMISSIONS

Sikri Commission: It is a three-member Commission of Enquiry headed by Mr Justice S.M. Sikri set up by the J. & K. State Government to probe "regional imbalances" in Jammu and Kashmir.

The commission has been empowered to recommend measures, constitutional or otherwise, to ensure just and equitable treatment to all the regions of the State. It will look into the question of imbalances "between and within" the three regions of the State—Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh.

The terms of reference of the commission also include examination of the recruitment policies of the Government, admission to professional institutions and scholarship and loans advanced to students.

CONFERENCES

"International Islamic Conference": An "International

Islamic Conference” attended by twenty-seven Muslim countries was held in London during the last week of May 1979 to discuss “liberation of Muslim lands” from the non-Islamic “domination” and called upon the U.N. to support the holding of a “free plebiscite” in Jammu and Kashmir.

The conference passed a resolution asking India not to “tamper with the demographic character of disputed territories”. The assumption, presumably, is that India is trying or may try to disturb the present population ratio in areas of the State which, according to Pakistan, remain subject to plebiscite.

Not content with having put forward these demands, the delegates attending the conference also sought the support of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the non-aligned movement. They also decided to set up an international secretariat to follow up its programme of “Liberation of Muslim lands”. A Secretary-General to run the international secretariat, with headquarters in London, was also appointed.

CONSTITUTION

The Constitution (50th Amendment) Bill: This controversial Bill, which relates to cow protection, was introduced in the Lok Sabha on May 18. The Lok Sabha had earlier passed a resolution on April 12, 1979 that ban on the slaughter of cows and calves should be effected in accordance with the Constitutional provision.

The Bill seeks to insert a new entry in the Concurrent List, “17C. Prohibiting the slaughter of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle”. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, it is stated that the Directive

Principles of State Policy contained in Article 48 of the Constitution enjoin that “the State shall endeavour to organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds and prohibiting the slaughter of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle.”

PERSONS

Bhaskar: was one of the most illustrious figures in the field of ancient Indian astronomy—the name given to India’s second satellite. There were actually two Bhaskar who made significant contributions in this field.

Bhaskar-I: was a leading astronomer of the 6th century and a contemporary of Brahmagupta. He was a leading exponent of Aryabhat-I system of astronomy and composed his commentary on the Aryabhatiya around 629 A.D. His date and place of birth are not known. But it is believed that he belonged to the Asmaka country (probably either in Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh or in Kerala) and he taught at Vallabhi (Kathiawar in modern Saurashtra).

Bhaskar-I was the author of three important works — “Mahabhaskariya”, “Laghubhaskariya” and “Aryabhatiyabhasya”.

He worked on indeterminate equations of the first degree, the mean longitudes of the planets, problems relating to motion and on the conjunctions of the planets with the stars, the true longitudes of the planets, solar and lunar eclipses, general planetary motion and trigonometry.

Bhaskar-II (1114-1160 A.D.): was one of the most impressive Indian astronomers and mathematicians. He was born in

1114 A.D. in the city of Vijjadavida (Bijapur in Karnataka).

He was the author of six important works “Lilawati”, “Bijaganita”, “Siddhanta Siromani”, “Vasanabhasya”, “Karanakuthala” and “Vivarana”.

Of these “Lilawati” and “Bijaganita” are excellent works in mathematics and geometry. He has dealt with arithmetical and geometrical progressions, problems of solid geometry as well as plane geometry, positive and negative numbers, zero and surds, indeterminate quadratic equations, simple quadratic equations and quadratic equations having more than one unknown.

In addition, Bhaskar-II is also credited with a number of works on mathematical astronomy dealing with planetary motions, the lunar and solar eclipses, conjunctions of the planets with stars, principles of trigonometry and eclipse calculations.

Bokasso, Emperor: He is President of the Central African Republic. He was in the news for being personally involved in the reported massacre of between 50 and 100 children in Nagaragba prison in Bangui, the capital, at the time the children were killed there in April 1979 according to a report released in May, 1979 by the London-based Amnesty International.

Clarke, Joe: He has been elected Prime Minister of Canada. He is only 39 years of age and is an untested newcomer who led his Progressive Conservative Party to a narrow victory in Canada’s national election held on May 22, 1979 ending the 11-year-old leadership of Mr Pierre Trudeau (Liberal).

Mr Clarke, in Canada’s 112-year history, is the youngest Prime Minister of his country

and the youngest leader of a major Western country.

Dwivedi, Dr Hazari Prasad: who died on May 19 at the age of 72, was a well-known Hindi scholar and critic. He was for some years Head of the Hindi Department of Punjab University. He was an eminent educationist and a man of great learning.

Gumede, Joseph: He has been elected Zimbabwe Rhodesia's first black President. He was elected on May 28 by the Rhodesian Senate.

Muzorewa, Bishop Abel: He is Zimbabwe Rhodesia's first black Prime Minister. Mr Muzorewa, a United Methodist bishop, who took over from Mr Ian Smith, the white Prime Minister who led Rhodesia's break from Britain 14 years ago, was sworn in on May 29 ending 90 years of white rule in the former British colony.

Rhodesia has been re-named as Zimbabwe Rhodesia. Whites have traditionally called the nation Rhodesia, while blacks prefer Zimbabwe.

Thapa, Surya Bahadur: He succeeded Mr Kirti Nidhi Bista as the Prime Minister of Nepal by a unanimous choice of the Rashtriya Panchayat. He has emerged as Prime Minister of Nepal at a time when, as leader of the partyless panchayat system, he will symbolise the establishment against the challenge posed by those favouring a multi-party system in the proposed referendum in Nepal in October.

A former Prime Minister during 1966-69, Mr Surya Bahadur Thapa was also imprisoned for one-and-a-half years during 1972-73 for publicly demanding fundamental rights for the people of Nepal and for supporting the demand for an end to "dyarchy in the kingdom". Mr Thapa favoured that the Prime Minister

should be answerable to the Rashtriya Panchayat only.

At present Mr Thapa is a nominated member of 135-member Rashtriya Panchayat.

Vorster, John: was the President of South Africa who resigned on June 4 when the judicial commission indicted him in the "slush funds" scandal when he was Prime Minister.

The commission had cleared Mr Vorster of the charges last December, but following increasing allegations the commission in the latest report said that it had now to amend his findings. Mr Vorster had to share the responsibility for the irregular actions of the former minister for information, Mr Connie Mulder, which involved misappropriation of millions of pounds.

PLACES

Bangui: is the capital of Central African Republic. It was in the news when in its report published on May 14 last, the London-based Amnesty International said that between 50 and 100 children were massacred in Nagaragba prison in the capital in the presence of Emperor Bokassa, self-styled "father and protector of children".

El Arish: is a town in Sinai which on May 25 marked the first transfer of territory under the Egypt-Israel peace treaty. The final contingent of the Israeli troops, which had occupied the town since the 1967 war, pulled out and Egyptian forces took over the 1060-sq. km. El Arish sector on the Mediterranean coast in the first stage of the Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory.

PROJECTS

Mathura Refinery: The commissioning of the six-million-tonne Mathura refinery will be

six months behind schedule and its total project cost will go up by more than 100 per cent, according to revised official estimates.

The project, scheduled for commissioning in April 1980, is now likely to be commissioned only late next year.

The revised cost of the refinery is now estimated at about Rs. 200 crore, including Rs. 8 crore for specific measures to combat air and water pollution. The original approved cost of the refinery was Rs. 97 crore.

Salal Project: The Salal hydro-electric project in Jammu and Kashmir, the largest hydel project under construction in the Central Sector, is now expected to be commissioned by 1985-86.

The Rs. 229.33-crore project over the Chenab river was earlier taken up for execution in the Central Sector in 1970 and was scheduled to be commissioned in 1976. But procedural problems delayed it and ultimately the Government decided to hand it over to NHPC (National Hydroelectric Power Corporation) for execution.

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant: The giant steel plant project to be set up at Visakhapatnam with Soviet assistance involving an investment of Rs. 2,356 crore has been approved by the Union Cabinet.

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, the long-cherished desire of Andhra public, will be the sixth one in the public sector.

SPACE RESEARCH

Bhaskara: is the name given to India's second satellite which was put into orbit on June 7 from a launching pad in the Soviet Union. The satellite weighs 444 kg. It is named after an ancient Indian astronomer. (See under "PERSONS").
(Contd. on page 806)

Intelligence Test

(Contd. from page 792)

14. 5 & 5. (In each vertical set of three figures the dots total 16.)
15. Daughter-in-law.
16. (a) (iv); (b) (iii); (c) (ii); (d) (i).
17. (a) Incredible. (b) Extempore. (c) Panacea. (d) Indelible.
18. (f).
19. LEMONADE.
20. J. (The letters advance alphabetically, first skipping one, then two letters, and so forth. After F, skip three letters to reach J.)
21. Pair. (All the other words can be made out of the letters 'Enterprise'.)
22. 2. (Arms are up, down, or sideways, and heads are white, black, or shaded once in each row and column.)
23. (c).
24. (a).
25. IAF.

Structural Changes in Agriculture—How and Why?

(Contd. from page 770)

of the poor people; that mass campaign of land reforms should be undertaken to educate the beneficiaries and the poor masses.

Conclusion: The opposition to land reforms has now worn out completely or almost completely. The need of such reforms has therefore been widely accepted. And yet, there is, paradoxically, lack of political will. The legislative and economic measures may fail or may not yield speedy results unless they are backed by an upsurge of awakening among the oppressed and the down-trodden in the villages. Mass education about these new farm order is, therefore, imperative.

ECONOMIC SCENE

(Contd. from page 772)

A ban on cow slaughter will affect adversely the employment opportunities open to a section of our society, namely, cattle breeders, butchers, exporters of hide and skins etc.

Despite the merits of cow which command social reverence for her, particularly, among the Hindus, the economic rationality for cow protection indiscriminately is open to question. The bovine population in India, like the human population, is abundant and redundant. This raises the question of feeding, weeding and breeding. More so, when the human population is also increasing at a rapid rate like the animal population. With the limited land, water and other resources, there is competitive demand for them to grow human food and also cattle feed. The priority for the former impinges on cattle feeding and efficiency. That affects adversely the yield of milk and meat and also the productive power of the draught cattle.

The problems of feeding and breeding good cattle are aggravated if the decrepit, old, maimed and unserviceable cattle are to be provided sustenance. They are, in a way, parasites and there is little or no economic rationale to maintain them at the cost of human beings. The argument of protecting the "mother cow" is purely sentimental, not economic, however important it may be from the communal point of view.

The economics of cow protection, therefore, boils down to this: Should there be a "total ban" or a partial ban? In the eye of an economist, a blanket ban is undesirable and unnecessary just as indiscriminate protection is irrational. To translate this approach into action in a democratic set-up is difficult. It requires carrying conviction to the people and not coercion or intimidation. Even the move (the political move, of course) to amend the Constitution so as to bring the subject of cow protection on to the Concurrent List is considered interference with the functioning of federalism.

Espionage and Role of Foreign Money

(Contd. from page 774)

1962 is believed to be the heyday of CIA activity. The role of foreign money in Indian politics has indeed become a major scandal, and it is only by stages that sordid facts are coming to light. But the disclosures are good for the country; at least, in future the Government and the people would be wary of accepting foreign money under various disguises. There is hardly an ill wind that blows nobody any good.

Current G. K.

(Contd. from page 805)

The primary mission of "Bhaskara" is to collect information on India's land, water, forest and ocean resources. Its life-time is estimated at one year but may stay longer in space. It was designed and built by Indian Space scientists at Satellite Centre in Bangalore. It will be controlled and tracked from Sriharikota Space Complex off the coast of Andhra Pradesh. Signals from Bhaskara will also be received at ground stations in Trivandrum, Ahmedabad and Car Nicobar.

(Also see under "Current National Affairs" within.)

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of Selected Words used in this issue)

abortive: born untimely; unsuccessful; brought forth in an imperfect condition; checked in development.

abrogate: to annul; to reduce to nothing; to abolish.

alibi: the plea in a criminal charge of having been elsewhere at the material time; the fact of being elsewhere; an excuse for failure.

antithesis: a figure in which thoughts or words are balanced in contrast; a thesis or proposition opposing another; opposition; the direct opposite.

apostasy: abandonment of one's religion, principles or party; a revolt from ecclesiastical obedience, from a religious profession, or from holy orders; defection.

attrition: wearing down; the wearing down of an adversary, resistance, resources, etc.

bandwagon: a prominent position; a place among the crowd or the winning side.

bane: destruction; death; mischief; poison; source or cause of evil.

candid: shining, clear; frank, ingenuous; free from prejudice; fair, impartial.

chicanery: trickery or artifice esp. in legal proceedings; quibbling.

cliche: the impression made by a die in any soft metal; an electrotypes or stereotype plate; a stereotyped phrase, or literary tag.

conformist: one who makes like or of the same form, esp. to the worship of the established church.

consonance: a state of agreement; agreement or union of sounds; a combination of notes which can sound together without the harshness produced by beats; concord.

covet: to desire or wish for eagerly; to wish for wrongfully.

de facto: in actual fact; really; actual.

decatalogue: the ten commandments.

delineate: to represent by a sketch or picture; to draw; to describe.

demagogue: a leader of the people; a popular and factious orator.

diabolical: devilish.

dismal: gloomy; dreary; sorrowful; depressing.

dither: to tremble, shiver, quake; to waver—to perturb, confuse.

dyarchy: a form of government in which two persons, States, or bodies

are jointly vested with supreme power.

fetish: something regarded with irrational reverence.

furtive: stealthy; secret.

fuzz: fine light particles or fibres, as dust, down, etc.; fluff; blurr—to disintegrate in fuzz.

horse-trading: bargaining.

Imperative: expressive of command, advice, or request; authoritative; peremptory; obligatory; urgently necessary; calling out for action.

insidious: watching an opportunity to ensnare; intended to entrap; deceptive; treacherous.

Irony: the Socratic method of discussion by professing ignorance; conveyance of meaning of words whose literal meaning is the opposite; a situation or utterance that has a significance unperceived at the time, or by the person involved; a condition in which one seems to be mocked by fate or the facts.

lukewarm: half hearted.

mandatory: containing a mandate or command.

manna: the food of the Israelites in the wilderness; delicious food for body or mind.

mendacity: lying; a falsehood.

nascent: coming into being.

nepotism: undue patronage to one's relations.

niggardly: stingy; stingily; grudgingly.

nightmare: a dreadful dream accompanied with pressure on the breast and a feeling of powerlessness to move or speak—a horrifying experience.

nit wit: a blockhead.

nodule: a little rounded lump; a swelling on a root inhabited by symbiotic bacteria.

oligarchie: government by a small exclusive class; a state so governed; a small body of men who have the supreme power of the state in their hands.

orgy: a frantic unrestrained celebration; a celebration in general; a riotous, licentious, or drunken revel.

ostentation: act of showing; display to draw attention or admiration; boasting.

overawe: to daunt by fear or by superior influence.

pelf: riches (in a bad sense); money.

plum: a well-known stone-fruit; choice that may be attained to, as one of the best passages in a book, one of the prizes of a career, or (U.S.) a government office as a reward of services etc.

protege: one under the protection or patronage of another.

rapier: a long slender sword, suitable for thrusting.

ruse: a trick, stratagem, artifice.

sagacious: keen in perception or thought; discerning and judicious; wise.

sanguine: of the complexion or temperament in which blood was supposed to predominate over the other humours; hence ardent, confident, and inclined to hopefulness; abounding in blood; ruddy; florid; of a full habit.

sap: a simpleton; a plodding student; a trench (usually covered or zig zag) by which approach is made towards a hostile position—to undermine—to proceed insidiously.

sceptic: pertaining to the philosophical school of Pyrrho and his successors, who asserted nothing positively and doubted the possibility of knowledge; one who withholds belief from prevailing doctrines esp. in religion; one who inclines to disbelieve; an inquirer who has not arrived at conviction.

scuttle: to dash with haste.

sinister: misleading; underhand; inauspicious; suggestive of threatened evil; unlucky; malign.

smithereen: shivers; small fragments.

sombre: dark and gloomy.

snare: a running noose for trapping a trap; an allurements, temptation, entanglement, moral danger; a loop for removing tumors etc., a string stretched across the lower head of a side drum.

sop: bread or other food dipped or soaked in liquid; a propitiatory gift or concession.

squabble: to dispute in a noisy manner; to wrangle; a noisy, petty quarrel.

squalor: state of being filthy, foul; dirtiness.

tacit: unspoken; silent.

victual: food, esp. human food; grain crops cut or ready for cutting.

Appointments Etc.

Appointments Etc.

Karl Carstens: Elected President of West Germany.

Joseph Gumedde: Elected President of Rhodesia.

Lt Col Mahmoud Guld Ahed Louly: Appointed President of Mauritania.

Joe Clark: Elected Prime Minister of Canada.

Surya Bahadur Thapa: Appointed Prime Minister of Nepal.

Lee Moore: Appointed Prime Minister of Caribbean Island.

Nagendra Nath Jha: Ambassador of India in Ireland appointed Ambassador of India in Turkey in succession to Mr Sardul Bikram Singh.

B.S. Das: Appointed Managing Director, Air India.

Manuel Menezes: Secretary, Department of Defence Production, appointed Chairman of Railway Board.

B.N. Mehra: Appointed Inspector General of Police, Chandigarh.

Lt Gen Mathur: Appointed General Officer Commanding-

in-Chief, Southern Command.

Dr Kenneth Chawkinga: Elected Speaker of Mizoram Assembly.

Distinguished Visitors

Shah Nawaz: Foreign Secretary of Pakistan.

Masuo Takashima: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan.

W.M. Chakulya: Foreign Minister of Zambia.

Resigned

Dr Salem-el-Hoss: Prime Minister of Lebanon.

John Vorster: President of South Africa.

Kirti Nidhi Bista: Prime Minister of Nepal.

Died

Dr Hazari Prasad Dwivedi: A well-known Hindi scholar.

B.S. Murthy: A veteran freedom fighter and former Union Minister of State for Health.

K. Raghuramaiah: Former Union Minister for Works and Housing.

Ahmed Ould Bouceif: Prime Minister of Mauritania.

—People in Nepal granted full freedom of speech.

30—The Rhodesian Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa, names a 17-strong Cabinet including former Premier Ian Smith as Minister without Portfolio.

31—The Commission of Enquiry on Maruti gives its finding that the ex-PM Mrs Indira Gandhi mis-used office to promote her son Sanjay Gandhi's business.

—U.N. asks South Africa to leave Namibia.

JUNE

1—India accords recognition to the Uganda Government of President Yusufu Lule.

3—UNCTAD-V fails to solve key issues.

5—Egypt concludes a deal with China involving a large shipment of Chinese built MIG aircraft.

6—Four Ministers of Haryana resign.

7—India's second satellite—"Bhaskara"—launched into space from a Soviet cosmodrome.

9—The first consignment of *Jaguars*, the deep penetration strike aircraft, arriving in July, says the Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Mr Jagjivan Ram.

—Bihar Government promulgates an Ordinance imposing total prohibition in the State with effect from April 1.

11—Prime Minister Morarji Desai visits Moscow.

14—India, Russia decry Pak meddling in Afghanistan affairs.

16—Karnataka Congress-I splits.

18—US President Jimmy Carter and Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev sign four documents in connection with the new SALT-II agreement at Vienna.

(The treaty itself, 22 pages in length, will run until 1985 and will limit each country to deployment of 2,250 launchers for inter-continental weapons, a reduction from the present 2,400. It also limits to 1,200 the number of ballistic missiles that can be armed with multiple, independently-targeted warheads.)

EVENTS

MAY

19—Looting, arson and clashes between the police and demonstrators in different parts of Nepal.

—Death of Dr Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, well-known Hindi scholar and critic.

23—Mr Joe Clark's Opposition Progressive Conservative Party wins Canada's national elections defeating 11-year leadership of Liberal Pierre Elliott Trudeau. (39-year-old Mr Clark is the youngest leader in Canada's 112-year history and the youngest

leader of a major Western country.)

24—King Birendra of Nepal announces a referendum to be held soon in Nepal to ascertain whether the people wanted the partyless panchayat system to continue with reforms or favoured a return to multi-party democracy.

25—Kirti Nidhi Bista, Prime Minister of Nepal, resigns.

—Two Special Courts constituted in New Delhi to try Emergency offences.

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